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20p

THE TIMES

No. 65,240 THURSDAY APRIL 13 1995

Clashes feared when exports resume

Ports ordered to lift ban on animal trade

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

EXPORTS of live calves and lambs to the Continent are to resume at Britain's busiest ferry port next week after a High Court ruling that bans imposed by harbours and airports were an illegal capitulation to mob rule.

In a landmark judgment, the court told Dover Harbour Board, Plymouth City Council and Coventry Airport that they had no right to refuse to handle — or seek to stop — a lawful trade, even if many people thought it immoral.

The three authorities — were refused leave to appeal, and Dover will be reopened to the trade soon after Easter, in spite of warnings from Kent police that demonstrators could cause widespread traffic chaos through the summer.

In Sussex, the Chief Constable said that he would go ahead with his plan to restrict animal exports to two sailings a week from April 24. Peter Whitehouse said exporters would be charged with breach of the peace if they tried to deliver livestock on other days.

Issuing his ruling yesterday, Lord Justice Simon Brown said that port authorities were entitled to the exporters' fullest co-operation to minimise disruption and could properly close their ports on security grounds in an emergency. But they must beware of surrendering to unlawful pressure groups.

Farmers expressed delight, while animal rights protesters vowed to continue their fight. Dawn Potter of Action for Animals said they would now concentrate their efforts on Dover, where live exports had been banned since January 6.

Lord Justice Brown, sitting with Mr Justice Popplewell, said that unless regular outlets were speedily opened to the livestock trade, up to 60,000 farmers could go out of business.

Calf exports, normally producing an income of £95 million a year, had fallen by 50 per cent because of the disruption to trade, and lamb exports, normally producing £80 million a year, by some 70 per cent, the judge said. The effect had been particularly devastating on Welsh hill farmers.



Peter Gilder: exporter who challenged ban

The vast bulk of the 1.9 million sheep and 500,000 calves exported annually to the Continent go through Dover. But they represent only a tiny proportion of the port's business and Jonathan Sloggett, the managing director of the harbour board, was concerned last night about the effect of the ruling on other customers. Ninety-nine per cent of the port's business would be put at risk for the sake of the 1 per cent represented by livestock, he said.

During the hearing, the Kent police gave a warning that disturbances at could lead to the closure of the A2 and A20 approach roads to the port, causing widespread traffic chaos during the holiday period.

Since the closure of Dover and the refusal since last autumn of the main cross-Channel ferry operators to carry livestock, farmers and exporters have chartered their own boats to ship sheep and calves from Brightlingsea in Essex, Shoreham, and Plymouth in Devon. Phoenix Aviation has also flown calves to France and The Netherlands from Coventry. The Kent police are now concerned that exporters may abandon these in favour of Dover which, unlike the other ports, is not at the mercy of the tides, so exports could be continuous.

In giving his ruling, Lord Justice Brown said it was difficult to define the precise point at which the right of public demonstration ended and the criminal offence of public nuisance began, but all violent conduct was unlawful, as was any activity disrupting people's rights to go about their lawful business.

"It may, indeed, be doubted whether there remains any logic in protesting at the ports. The only body properly able to ban this lawful trade is Parliament itself — unless the Secretary of State is rightly advised that even that would be unlawful under [European] Community law, in which event the only solution lies across the Channel," he said.

Ben Gill, deputy president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "This is enormously important. We now have a correct basis in law for full restoration of this trade. No farmer would condone any cruelty to livestock. We live with our animals day in and day out. What must be improved is animal welfare abroad."

Peter Gilder, the exporter who challenged the Dover ban, was booed by demonstrators as he left the High Court declaring it was a "brilliant, fantastic" judgment and he hoped to start operations from Dover "as soon as we can come up with some amicable agreement with the local authorities".

Animal rights demonstrators outside Coventry airport pledged to "carry on fighting". Ursula Bates, of Compassion in World Farming, said: "We shall step up our protests. We are going to stop this trade. It may be legal but it is utterly immoral."

DAVID GILES/PA



Passengers, stuck near the Channel Tunnel entrance, vent their frustration yesterday

Eurostar train stranded

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, LUCY BERRINGTON AND MARIANNE DARCH

HUNDREDS of London-bound passengers were stranded on a Eurostar train for four hours yesterday after its overhead power arm ripped down live cables in Kent, a mile from the Channel Tunnel.

The £24 million train, on the early morning service from Gare du Nord in Paris, shuddered to a halt at 8.15am amid a shower of sparks. The 250 passengers, who had paid between £84 and £195 return, were finally bussed to Waterloo after spending up to five hours in the carriages. They were dropped off outside the international terminal, six hours after their 9.20am scheduled arrival time.

The accident brought all Eurostar services between London, Paris and Brussels grinding to a halt for more than three hours while engineers struggled to clear debris from the four-track line.

More than 2,400 passengers on five Eurostar trains suffered delays of between three and ten hours. They will all receive a full refund, at a cost to European Passenger Services, the Eurostar operator, of up to £2.5 million. Car shuttle and and freight services continued as normal. Angry passengers were given vouchers for full refunds by Eurostar staff at the station but many demanded compensation for lost time and inconvenience.

James Carlisle, an Essex businessman, said: "This could have cost me a valuable client. Eurostar deserves to go bust."

Marion Denis, a bilingual secretary from Paris on a day trip said she would have to

Continued on page 2, col 4

Teachers back strike ballot over rise in class sizes

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

STATE schools face a summer of disruption after traditionally moderate teachers voted overwhelmingly yesterday to allow ballots for strikes against large classes.

The Association of Teachers and Lecturers, angered by threatened job losses, advised members to refuse to take charge of classes with more than 31 pupils.

The decision gives fresh momentum to the growing revolt by teachers, parents and governors against the Government's tough education spending settlement this year. Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, faces the prospect of a united front with the two other main classroom unions expected to approve plans for industrial action at their conferences over Easter.

The largest union, the National Union of Teachers, will debate at the weekend demands for a 24-hour national strike against the squeeze on school budgets. Primary schools would be most affected by any action against the increases in class sizes which unions fear will follow an anticipated 14,000 job losses in the coming months.

Representatives at the teachers and lecturers' annual conference in Harrogate voted to hasten action against large classes because of the extra workload for teachers and concern about children's health and safety just minutes before they were addressed by Mrs Shephard. They sanctioned local and national ballots for action, including strikes, and advised teachers not to take sole responsibility for classes which exceeded their recommended size limits for more than two consecutive days.

The union's 135,000 members, which include 40,000 primary teachers, will receive detailed advice about the forms action might take early in the summer term. Children in classes breaching the union's limits could be sent home on a rota, distributed among smaller classes in the same school, or be "babysat" rather than taught.

Initially, action would be most likely in individual schools and local authorities where funding difficulties are most acute, such as Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire and Devon. Teachers could take immediate action without a ballot if they were concerned for the safety of children in crowded classes.

Yesterday's vote threatens to derail Mrs Shephard's efforts to restore Conservative relations with the profession and take the heat out of an issue which could damage the party's already poor prospects in next month's local elections. She has escaped most of the odium for this year's spending cuts because she wrote to Cabinet colleagues saying she feared thousands of jobs would be lost and class sizes would shoot up unless the Government funded in full the teachers' 2.7 per cent pay increase. But after losing the Cabinet battle, Mrs Shephard has been forced to woo teachers by promising that the Prime Minister will make education a spending priority next year.

Mrs Shephard said after the vote that industrial action was wrong and hoped it would not go ahead.

☐ Schools should be freed from the legal requirement to hold daily acts of collective Christian worship, the association also decided.

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$22bn takeover

Kirk Kerkorian, 77, the Californian casino billionaire, yesterday made a $22.8 billion bid for Chrysler, the American carmaker. Chrysler shares rose but Wall Street dismissed the offer as an attempt by Mr Kerkorian to persuade the company to buy back his holding. Page 23

Appointments

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Woman wins £50,000 rape award from jury

BY RICHARD DUCE

A WOMAN was awarded £50,000 damages yesterday by a jury which decided she had been raped by her former employer, even though the Crown Prosecution Service decided not to press charges against him.

Linda Griffiths, 32, who said she wanted her name made public, was so incensed by the failure to prosecute Arthur Williams, a Cornwall hotelier, that she launched a rare civil damages claim against him at Truro County Court. Her action is believed to be one of only a few similar cases brought before a county court in the past 50 years involving a rape allegation.

A jury awarded Ms Griffiths compensation after deciding it was satisfied she had not consented to sex with Mr Williams at a flat she rented from him in Falmouth, Cornwall. Ms Griffiths emerged from the court to say: "Justice has been done", but Mr Williams said he intended to appeal against the jury decision and its award.

Mr Williams, 48, who runs the Green Lawns Hotel in Falmouth, said: "I have been advised to appeal on legal grounds and the appeal will be filed within 28 days." His barrister, Jonathan Marks, said Mr Williams would have to sell his house and his part ownership of the hotel if the award was upheld.

Ms Griffiths, a divorcee and a former dishwasher at Mr Williams's three-star hotel, told the jury she was raped in February 1991 at the £45-a-week bedsitter she rented from him. She said she was attacked after she asked him to repair a broken door lock. "He said he was the landlord, and that I knew what he had come for, and if I did not do what he wanted he would throw me out," she added.

Mr Williams, a former chef at London's Dorchester Hotel, said the incident happened a month after he made her redundant. He claimed Ms Griffiths consented to sex.

After the case, Ms Griffiths said: "It has taken four years to get this case to court and even though it was a traumatic experience, I was determined to see it through."

A spokesman for the Crown Prosecution Service said that on the evidence available there was no realistic prospect of a conviction in the case. There were two different standards of proof to be considered. In a civil case, the jury had to decide on the balance of probability, whereas in a criminal trial a higher standard of proof was required.

A Devon and Cornwall Police spokesman said if it was felt there was a need to review the papers of the criminal case, it would be considered.



Griffiths: "Justice has been done"



Williams: "I have been advised to appeal"

Sex row solicitor quits election at Law Society

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE vice-president of the Law Society last night surprised the legal establishment by withdrawing his name as a presidential candidate following allegations of sexual harassment.

John Young, a senior partner with a City firm of solicitors, who had been expected to become President in July, said he was standing down with regret as the candidate of the Society's governing council.

Mr Young's succession to the presidency had seemed assured until earlier this month, when dissidents in the society put up rival candidates for the first time in 40 years.

Mr Young, 60, a member of the council for 24 years, said he feared that allegations about his conduct two years ago would become an issue in the ensuing campaign.

In a letter announcing his withdrawal, Mr Young said: "I regret that references to allegations about my conduct made two years ago might have been made into an election issue. The incidents in question (which, however minor they might be, I naturally regret) were the subject of full inquiries at the time by the then president and his fellow office holders, and I regarded the matter as closed".

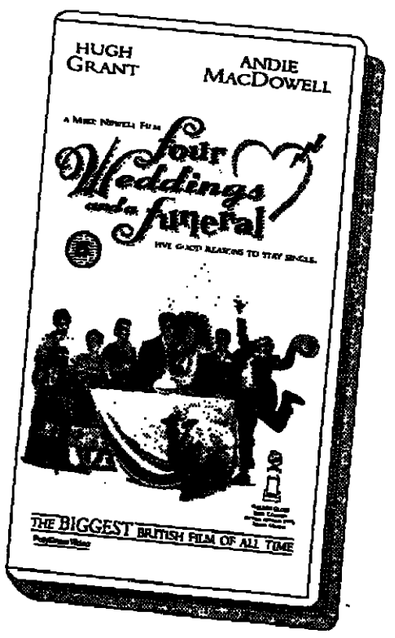
It is understood that after an investigation, Mr Young was warned about his conduct and gave an assurance about his future behaviour. No disciplinary action was taken. Sources at the Law Society said last night that there had been no further allegations against him since then.

There was also concern within the Law Society, the governing body for 65,000 solicitors, that the sexual harassment claims could have re-emerged during his year in office, causing immense damage to the organisation.

Mr Young, a senior partner at Cameron Markby Hewitt in the City of London, announced his decision only days after one of the candidates for the presidency said allegations of sexual harassment of Law Society women staff and a female member of its ruling council, had been made two years ago. Eileen Pembridge, a legal aid solicitor, demanded to know what action had been taken.

Mark Sheldon, a past President who investigated the allegations, said they were in "no way gross, but were arguably inappropriate".

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Spain sends third gunboat as Atlantic fish war escalates

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

THE dispute between Canada and the European Union over fish catches in the North Atlantic remained unresolved yesterday as Spain announced it was sending a third naval patrol boat to protect its trawlers in the disputed waters off Newfoundland.

EU ambassadors did not even discuss the crucial question of a share-out of Greenland halibut, the fish at the centre of dispute, at talks with the Canadians.

The Irish Navy, meanwhile, arrested another Spanish trawler for alleged illegal fishing. The boat was arrested 166 miles off the Aran Islands, Co Clare, and was being escorted last night into a port on the west coast.

Eight Spanish vessels have been detained by the Irish Navy over the past week and yesterday two Spanish fishermen appeared in court at Buncrana, Co Donegal, charged with breaking Irish and EU fishing laws. The skippers were remanded on bail of IR£100 each for trial at Donegal Circuit Criminal Court on May 30.

Spain's Defence Ministry said yesterday that the lightly-armed warship, the *Atalaya*, would sail today from El Ferrol in Galicia for international waters just outside Canada's 200-mile territorial limit, where a dozen Spanish trawlers are fishing for the halibut. The *Atalaya*, which has a crew of 42, is a sister ship of the *Centinela* and the *Serviola*, which are already patrolling the Grand Banks.

The deadlock in the negotiations continued despite a threat by Canada to take "appropriate action" if the EU failed to ratify by yesterday a draft agreement on the share-out of halibut worked out by officials last week. The EU says the draft still leaves questions unresolved.

Talks became bogged down over demands from the EU that Canada repay a Can$500,000 bond exacted from the Spanish owners of the *Estai*, the boat the Canadians seized in international waters on March 9, setting off the current dispute.

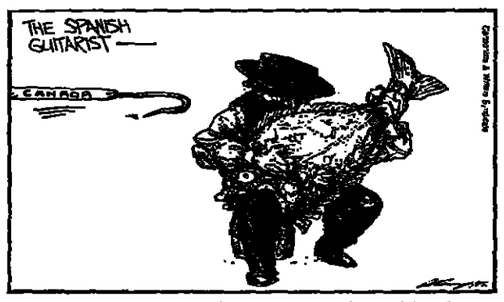
The EU argues that, since the seizure contravened international law, the bond, demanded in exchange for the boat's release, was also illegal. The Canadians say their Attorney-General is the only person who can take the decision to repay the bond.

The European Commission denied claims that a Spanish fishing boat had been arrested off the coast of South Africa for illegal fishing. Marco Zatterin, the EU fisheries spokesman, said: "We know that some fisherman do not follow the rules. But to say that all fishermen are breaking the rules and that all fishermen are Spanish is intoxicating."

□ Serge April, the Canadian Deputy High Commissioner, paid a visit to Scottish fishermen in Peterhead yesterday to thank them for their support in the dispute with Spain.

He told them they had been "at the vanguard of support for our campaign".

Leading article, page 15



The fishing dispute between Canada and Spain as seen by Cummings of the Winnipeg Free Press

Grateful Canadians invade West Country

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

CORNWALL is enjoying an unexpected boom in tourism as hundreds of Canadians take their holiday in the West Country as a mark of gratitude to trawlermen supporting them in the fishing dispute with Spain.

Hotels are full, restaurants are busy and postcards of Cornish fishing villages are selling faster than shopkeepers can restock them. Hordes of Canadians have visited Newlyn, where the Canadian High Commissioner was greeted on Tuesday with a sea of maple leaf flags, and bought postcards of its fishing fleet to send home to their relatives.

"They started coming last weekend and they are staying all around Penzance," said Pam Weaver of the local tourist information centre. "They came to see the High Commissioner and then stayed on. Many went to hotels near Land's End while others have gone to St Ives. They all go to Newlyn and buy postcards of the fishing fleet as souvenirs."

Roy Standring, deputy tourism officer for Cornwall, believes the Canadians have chosen to come as tourists "to say thank you and repay their debt". He added: "The place is heaving with people wearing maple leaf T-shirts and waving Canadian flags. It has all been unexpected but extremely welcome. Some of the hotels are buying in Canadian flags specially for the occasion."



Members of New College choir soothe frayed nerves with a selection of Cole Porter songs yesterday

Passengers stranded

Continued from page 1

return home almost as soon as she arrived in London. "We had five hours locked in that train with nothing to do and nothing to eat. They didn't apologise. Now I have to go home on this coach."

Komkrichwrakool Uthalwan, 20, one of a party of Thais on a two-day visit to England, said: "I am glad we are going back by bus. If such a thing as this had happened in Thailand, an emergency official would have told us what was happening, but they did not. The train was as hot as Thailand."

Passengers' frayed nerves were soothed by a selection of Cole Porter songs sung by the 35-strong New College, Oxford, choir, returning from a ten-day tour of France.

After the train was freed from the cables just after 1pm passengers were offered the choice of returning to France by bus and ferry or continuing their journey to London by coach. Eurostar said that all other trains were leaving on schedule for their three-hour journeys to Paris by lunch-time.

A spokesman for European Passenger Services, Eurostar's operator, said yesterday that it remained a mystery why the train's power arm became entangled in the cables at the point where the Eurostar trains transfer from an overhead to a track power supply.

Portillo renews attack on Brussels

BY JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP BASSETT

MICHAEL PORTILLO began a fresh assault against Brussels last night claiming that a three-year plan to strengthen workers' rights would threaten British jobs and put up costs. The Employment Secretary insisted that the social action programme proposed by the European Commission could deter competition and stop employers taking on workers.

"We should concentrate on how to help businesses to create jobs, not on measures which increase costs and red tape and so destroy jobs," said Mr Portillo, the Cabinet's leading Euro-sceptic.

The plans unveiled yesterday in Brussels by Padraig Flynn, the EU Social Affairs Commissioner, include 22 measures to improve workers' rights ranging from greater job safety to tighter legislation on working hours. Brussels drew back from new employment laws but Mr Flynn made clear that the Commission would continue to press Britain to abandon its social chapter opt-out.

Mr Portillo is particularly concerned about proposals making it more difficult for employers to sack individuals and measures to extend EU rules limiting working hours to new sectors. The plans also include measures to protect part-time workers.

Mr Portillo said in a statement: "There are some welcome signs that the Commission has moved towards accepting that tackling structural unemployment and creating new jobs must top the agenda. But there are still too many signs in the new programme that the old way of thinking — based on regulation and restriction — has not been laid to rest.



Portillo: fears jobs losses

"It doesn't recognise that the more burdens we place on business, the harder we make it for employers to create new jobs and take on new employees," he said.

Mr Flynn emphasised the need for widespread consultation on the measures, prompting criticism from the TUC that he was softening his stand on workers' rights.

Mr Portillo is already appealing against proposals to give foreigners posted to EU countries the same rights of employment as the country in which they are working.

Ulster talks as troops pull out

Sir Patrick Mayhew announced last night that ministers would open a new round of bilateral talks on the future of Northern Ireland with the Province's main political parties. The move followed confirmation that a further 400 troops are to be withdrawn, bringing the total reduction to nearly 1,000 since the IRA and loyalist ceasefires began last year.

The Northern Ireland Secretary said he would be inviting the Ulster Unionist Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, the SDLP and the Alliance Party to the talks, led by Michael Ancram, a junior minister. The announcement at a dinner in Belfast came after the SDLP held talks with Ulster's two main Unionist parties.

Watchdogs curb TV crime drama

Broadcasting watchdogs have introduced tougher guidelines for the makers of television crime reconstruction dramas, obliging them to pay greater attention to the feelings of victims or relatives of the dead.

Under rules on privacy announced by the Independent Television Commission yesterday, producers will not be able to go ahead with dramas based on true-life tragedy if the distress caused to individuals is greater than any benefit to the public interest.

Booth made QC

Cherie Booth, wife of Tony Blair, is appointed Queen's Counsel today. She is one of 71 barristers, eight of them women, promoted to the senior ranks of the bar. Ms Booth, 40, specialises in public administration and employment law. Also accepted were Edward Garnier, a Tory MP, and Philip Havers, son of Lord Havers, a former Lord Chancellor.

Aitken inquiry

Labour called yesterday for a Commons inquiry into the business activities of Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary. Mr Aitken has confirmed that he did not declare four unpaid directorships held until he became a minister in 1992. However, he said under the rules at the time MPs were under no obligation to declare unremunerated directorships.

Council tax rise

Households in England will pay an average of £499 in council tax in the next financial year, an increase of about £25 or 5.4 per cent. In metropolitan districts, the average bills will be £479, in inner London £498 and in outer London £540. East Anglia will have the lowest bills, averaging £451, with £470 in the North and £524 in the South East.

Norwich fire

Firemen were last night tackling a fire in the 13th century Assembly Rooms in Norwich, bringing traffic in the city centre to a standstill. The roof of the building, formerly a mansion but now used for conferences, exhibitions and a restaurant, was destroyed and the interior badly damaged. Last August the city library opposite was destroyed by fire.

Clean catch

A 36in long salmon weighing 8lb has been caught in London's redeveloped Docklands. The catch, by Terry Smith, a stall-holder on Petticoat Lane market, has been hailed as a dramatic sign of declining pollution in the Thames. The London Docklands Development Corporation is to stuff the fish and hang it in its headquarters at Thames Quay.

Governors censure BBC chiefs over Panorama ban

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BBC governors have criticised the corporation's executives in London for ignoring Scottish interests when they planned to broadcast a *Panorama* interview with John Major last week, three days before the local elections in Scotland.

Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the board of governors, said last night: "We regret that overall the BBC showed insufficient regard to the Scottish dimension and that there was inadequate consultation with Scottish management."

Mr Hussey's statement followed a board meeting at which the governors questioned John Birt, the director-general, and Tony Hall, head of news and current affairs, about why they had given so much airtime to one political party in the run-up to an election.

Mr Hall conceded at the meeting that, with hindsight, it might have been better to have consulted BBC Scotland at an earlier stage before deciding to go ahead with the Major interview.

After the meeting, which was described as "productive", the governors called on BBC managers to strengthen management consultation between regions.

Mr Hussey said: "We recognise that the BBC has a duty to ensure that special care is taken at moments of intense political debate. The BBC's management is reviewing its approach to ensuring fairness in all election contexts — European, general, local and by-elections — weighing the need to cover continuing events and issues on the one hand and to achieve balance between the parties on the other."

He accepted that "the executives involved did consider how best to balance the interview with other programme material in both the Scottish and the UK context".

The governors' statement acknowledged the highly complex decisions facing executives, and the fact that the corporation would have been open to Tory attack had it bowed to Opposition pressure and voluntarily postponed the programme until after the election.

It also recognised that the BBC was determined to ensure that it, not the courts, took decisions about impartiality and fair coverage. The governors' statement said: "Independence will not be achieved by constant resort to the courts. Broadcasters must not become shuttlecocks between political parties vying to influence programmes or, alternatively, to stop their transmission."

Scottish judges stopped *Panorama* from being broadcast in Scotland before the council elections after opposition parties had applied for a ban on the ground that it could have given the Conservative Party an unfair advantage. The programme was shown later.

The statement last night was the closest the BBC governors have come to a reprimand of managers for several years.

Fiona Ballantyne, vice-chair of the Broadcasting Council for Scotland, an independent body that advises the BBC, said the council "deeply regretted" the corporation's decision to run the Major interview without proper consultation. "We want to see that mechanisms are put in place to ensure that it does not happen again," she said.



Hussey: expressed regret

Lib Dems fear Labour's new appeal

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

LIBERAL Democrat chiefs have warned party activists that they are failing to win the support of dissident Tory voters ahead of next month's local elections.

In a leaked internal memo, party strategists say that Labour is now "the natural home" for Tories who are disillusioned with the Government and that the days of "easy pickings" for the Liberal Democrats are over.

The pessimistic disclosure came as party leaders declared at the launch of their election campaign yesterday that the Liberal Democrats were "optimistic and upbeat".

Paddy Ashdown, the party leader, said the Liberal Democrats would make significant gains at the election, winning control or direct influence of at least 40 per cent of councils. His party's target, he added, was to control more councils than the Tories.

Party officials said the memo was drafted before Christmas by Andrew Stunell, the Liberal Democrat's leading election analyst, when the outlook was bad. The indications now were of much more support than originally predicted.

The memo, obtained by Frank Dobson, the Shadow Environment Secretary, said that the political scene was tougher for the Liberal Democrats than in 1993 and 1994. The elections on May 4 would be a vital credibility test before the general election. "Whilst the Liberal Democrats are still advancing in local government elections, the easy pickings since Black Wednesday in 1992 have disappeared. Labour are now the main beneficiaries of Conservative popularity." The elections on May 4 are an important test for the Liberal Democrats. Almost half their 4,600 sitting councillors face re-election, including those on 34 of the 40 Liberal Democrat local authorities.

Yesterday Mr Ashdown said the Liberal Democrat campaign would focus on the Tories' "devastating" education cuts, which pave the way for tax-cutting bribes. The local elections would be a referendum on education and the Tory cuts will be seen "as an act of vandalism".

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هكذا من الأصل

Cobb faller finds silver lining in loss of £95,000 award



Staples: not surprised

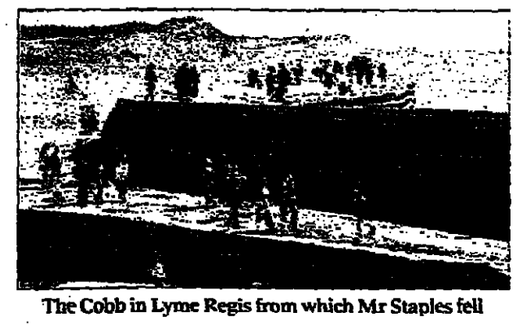
BY EMMA WILKINS AND ANDREW PIERCE

A MAN who won £95,000 compensation after he fell from the Cobb at Lyme Regis has had his award overturned on appeal.

However, Paul Staples, 39, said he was not disappointed because he had not yet received or planned how to spend the money. He added that it had been a more eventful week than ususal, as a *decree nisi* from his former wife had just come through. "I'm not at all bitter about not getting the money. In fact I'm quite pleased that I won't have to hand any of it over to my ex-wife."

Mr Staples, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, claimed that West Dorset District Council should have posted danger signs on the 166-year-old harbour wall after he slipped and fell 20ft on to rocks, fracturing his pelvis and dislocating his hip, seven years ago. He was awarded compensation by the High Court in Winchester.

But West Dorset District Council argued at the Court of Appeal that the danger of slipping on the Cobb's algae-covered surface was obvious. Lord Justice Kennedy ruled that the council had correctly posted warning signs after the incident, but that did not mean that there should have been a notice in place before Mr Staples's fall. Visitors to the Cobb could make their own decisions about whether to walk along it.



The Cobb in Lyme Regis from which Mr Staples fell

Mr Staples said: "I brought the case in the first place to get the council to put up warning signs, which they have now done. I was as astonished as the next person when I was awarded £95,000."

Alan Muir, senior solicitor, said the council was delighted by the ruling. "The council lodged the appeal because it was felt that the case had wider implications in respect of the extent to which the council should go to warn the public of possible dangers.

"In the case of the Cobb, the Appeal Court judges clearly felt the council's duty of care to visitors did not extend to erecting a sign."

Mr Staples is believed to be the first non-fictional person to have fallen from the Cobb, which features in Jane Austen's *Persuasion* as the site of Louisa Musgrove's fall while walking out with Captain Wentworth.

It also featured in the film *The French Lieutenant's Woman*. John Fowles, author of the book, whose house overlooks the Cobb, said last night that he was delighted the award had been overturned. "Paying compensation to someone who did not have the common sense to look after themselves was the height of madness. People have been standing on the Cobb for decades without incident. Local authorities which have sites of great historic interest in their jurisdiction require protection against lawsuits from clumsy people. The Cobb should be protected from people, not the other way round."

Mr Fowles said he was horrified by the notion of hazard signs on the Cobb, or even worse, safey railings. "Over my dead body. If we went down that avenue just about every interesting site in the world would be fenced in by railings because of the stupidity of man."

He said that the entire community in Lyme Regis had been dismayed by the size of the compensation ruling. "It was iniquitious. There would have been a fighting fund set up if the council had been forced to pay.

"If they had not won the appeal hundreds of people would have flocked to the Cobb, in the hope of being blown over in high winds, and suing for thousands. I fear it would ultimately have been shut off to us all because of one man's misfortune."

Double-glazed patio doors smashed at family's isolated country home

Farmhouse wife 'killed with burglar's jemmy'

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

JANET BROWN, whose handcuffed and naked body was found in her isolated home, had been beaten five times on the back of the head with a weapon believed to be a crowbar or a jemmy. Police believe that she disturbed a burglar but say that the circumstances of her death are so unusual that other theories are still being considered.

Detectives did not give details of alternative explanations but said that her husband, Dr Graham Brown, was not a suspect. Dr Brown, a research chemist, flew from his work in Basle, Switzerland, on Tuesday evening after learning of his wife's death.

Asked if Mrs Brown had ever had an affair, Detective Superintendent Michael Short, who is leading the investigation, said: "Not to my knowledge." Neighbours doubted that there were problems in the marriage. "She was a one-man woman, not a flirtatious sort at all," a villager said, "She was always very proper." Mrs Brown, 51, is thought to have been killed in the late evening. She was lying face down at the foot of the stairs, partly in the living room, with hands secured behind her back and her head covered in blood.

Her dressing gown was in her bedroom and she had not been sexually assaulted. There was no sign of a struggle upstairs and little indication that she had been able to put up much resistance downstairs.

Mr Short said: "It is certainly not common to find a lady without her clothes and lying on her front, handcuffed. There's a thousand things that could have gone on."

Unlike Thames Valley police handcuffs, the metal cuffs did not bear the manufacturer's name. It was not clear whether Mrs Brown had been handcuffed before the attack, or after she died. Mr Short said that burglars sometimes carried handcuffs. "It's certainly not unknown for people to break their way into a house and tie people up."

Dr Brown spent 90 minutes yesterday being briefed by Mr Short before identifying his wife's remains. Mr Short said: "At some stage we'll have to ask him about his marriage, but at this stage there is nothing to indicate that they were separated. It is a perfectly happy marriage."



Janet Brown: found lying at the foot of the stairs

Dr Brown was hoping to be reunited with his three children, Zara, 22, a languages graduate, Benedict, 21, a student at Exeter, and Roxanne, 17, an A-level student. The family are staying with friends and plan to spend Easter together.

Mrs Brown's body was found by a builder's son at 8.11am on Tuesday at the family's four-bedroom farmhouse at Hall Farm, Radnage, Buckinghamshire. The burglar alarm was ringing but was not a type connected to a police station.

Double-glazed patio doors at the side of the house had been smashed, leaving "an awful lot of glass both inside and outside the premises", Mr Short said. The house has Neighbourhood Watch signs on several windows and a sticker with a picture of a dog bearing the warning *Cave canem*.

If Mrs Brown had set the alarm it would have been activated by the breaking of the glass doors. Alternatively, she could have pressed one of two panic buttons in the bedrooms. Engineers were yesterday inspecting the alarm to see how it had been activated.

The last person to speak to Mrs Brown was a teenage girl who knows Roxanne. She telephoned at 8.30pm, when she was told Roxanne was away for the night.

Two forensic scientists from Aldermaston are leading a team that expects to take two days to examine the immediate area where the body was found. It will take a week of minute scientific examination of the entire farmhouse before Dr Brown will be able to return with detectives to discover if anything has been stolen.

Police are seeking the owner of a small car seen parked at 9.50pm on Monday on a patch of waste ground known as The Triangle, 200 yards from Hall Farm. They also want to find a motorcyclist who awoke villagers at 6.30am on Tuesday using quiet roads normally used by early morning horse-riders.

Detectives will check estate agency records in case the family home, sold a fortnight ago for £345,000, was visited by a bogus buyer who came back to steal the contents. The Browns were hoping to move to Oxford, where Mrs Brown was working on a research project into the long-term health of women who had been successfully treated for fertility problems in the 1970s and 1980s.

She was employed on a three-year contract with the University of Oxford's Department of Public Health and Primary Care, operating from a base at the Anglia and Oxford Regional Health Authority site in Oxford. Much of her work involved looking through health records stored in hospitals across Oxfordshire and Berkshire.

Her manager on the project, Dr Mike Murphy, a consultant epidemologist, said: "What has happened is staggering and tragic. We will miss Janet immensely. She was a lovely person as well as a linchpin of the research work."

RUSSELL BOYCE



Police forensic scientists were combing the house and grounds for clues yesterday as engineers examined the security system to see how it was triggered

Workmen find girl's body in canal

BY PAUL WILKINSON

POLICE searching for a 13-year-old girl missing from home for five months have recovered a body from a canal. Detectives in West Yorkshire said they believed the body was that of Lindsay Rimer, who vanished from her home in Hebden Bridge in November. A post-mortem examination was being carried out last night to try to establish the cause of death.

A senior officer went to the home of Lindsay's parents, Gordon and Geraldine Rimer, soon after workmen found the body in the Rochdale canal, about two miles from the family home.

Lindsay disappeared late on the evening of November 7 after going to a grocer's in the centre of Hebden Bridge to buy cereal for her breakfast.

Her visit was recorded by the store's security camera, but an intensive check of the area, including a search of neighbouring moorland and the canal, failed to find her.

The day after Linday disappeared, Mr Rimer, 42, told a press conference that he did not know she had gone until the following morning. The unemployed former publican said he and his wife had both assumed she had come in and gone straight to bed in her room at the top of the house.



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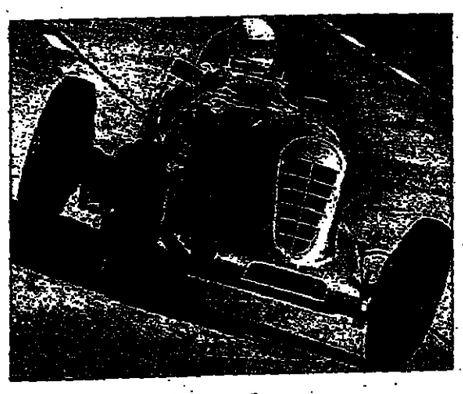
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SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



The Bentley boy racers

WIN TICKETS WORTH £300 TO SEE THE LEGENDS RACE IN CAR 95

THE £100 PRIZE JUMBO EASTER CROSSWORD IN WEEKEND

Probation for plumber who blew up homes

BY TIM JONES

A PLUMBER who caused a gas explosion that destroyed three homes was put on probation for two years yesterday.

The blast, which caused about £500,000 of damage, happened as Michael Beattie lit his living-room fire while watching an episode of *Dad's Army* entitled "Things That Go Bump in the Night". He clambered from the rubble with only flash burns, but his home and those of two neighbours were wrecked, leaving 11 people homeless.

Plymouth Crown Court was told that Roy Greener, 56, had incorrectly used a DIY plastic cap to plug a partially fitted gas pipe at Mr Beattie's home in Plymouth.

Greener, of Plymouth, a plumber for 23 years, admitted a charge under the Gas Safety Regulations Act of failing to ensure a gas pipe was properly sealed.

Judge Griggs said: "I am satisfied you were not reckless but you were negligent." Insurance companies will foot the bill for the blast.

Man found hanged after rape acquittal

BY ANDREW PIERCE

A MAN cleared of rape last month has been found hanged, provoking renewed calls for the law to be changed to protect the identity of defendants in rape trials. Irene Jackson, who discovered the body of her 22-year-old son Mark in the family home in Wigan, Greater Manchester, claimed last night that he would still be alive if he had not been named.

Mrs Jackson said that the trial at Exeter Crown Court and publicity in the local press had turned her son into a recluse. "He couldn't face people even though he was innocent," she said.

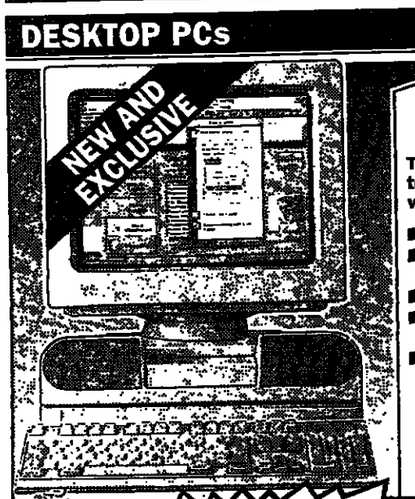
Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, said last night: "This case is a tragic example of the importance of amending the law. Confidentiality should be extended to the man and the woman until after the verdict or sentence has been passed."

Mr Jackson, a chef, was cleared of rape at his bedsit in Minehead, Somerset.

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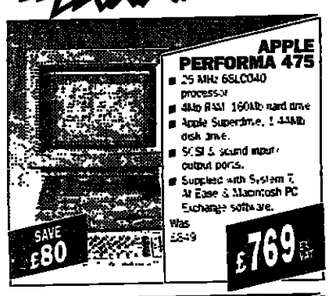
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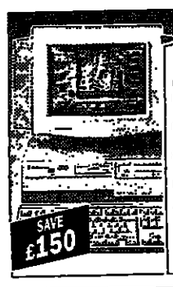
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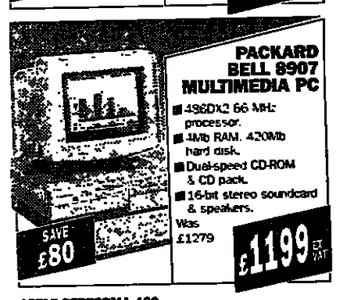
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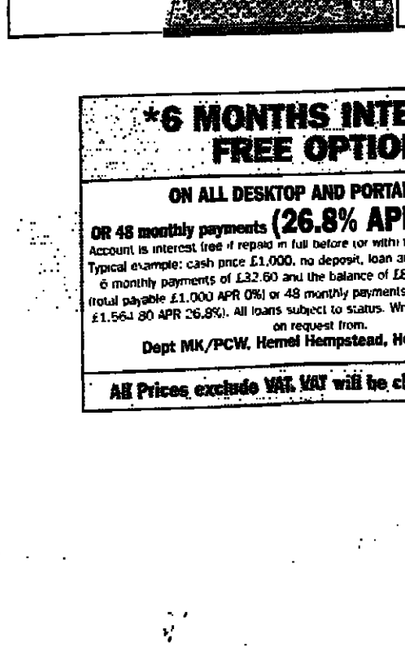


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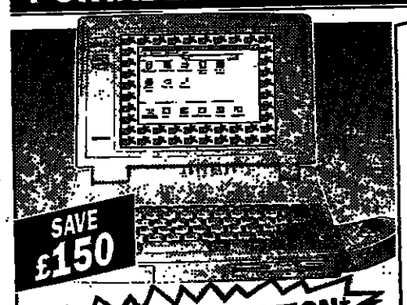


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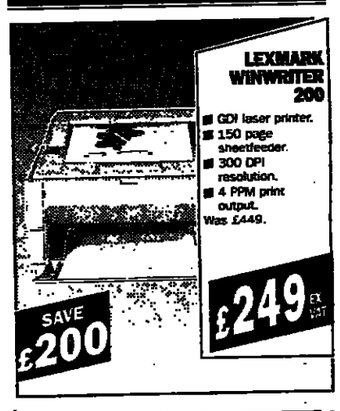


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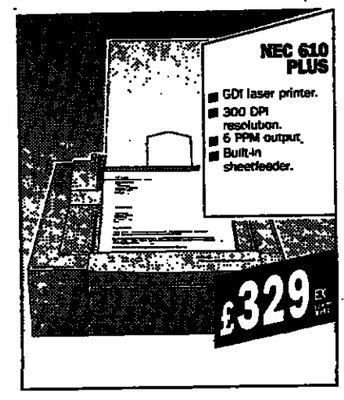
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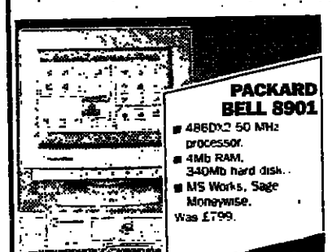
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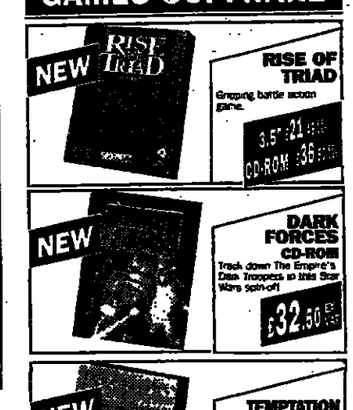
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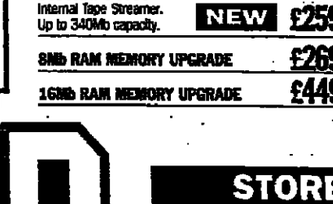
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هذا من الاصل

Doctor blighted by sex slurs wins £45,000 damages

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A GYNAECOLOGIST who said his career had been destroyed after he was falsely accused of sexual harassment by two midwives won £45,000 damages for libel and slander at the High Court yesterday.

Dr Mudiame Giwa-Osagie, 41, blamed a racial conspiracy after he was suspended from his job as an acting registrar at Doncaster Royal Infirmary in December 1990. He said that malicious gossip and the lies of the two midwives with whom he worked had destroyed his chances of becoming a consultant earning £142,000 a year.

After four hours' deliberation, the jury agreed that Sally Hall, 29, and Sharron Smithson, 32, had maliciously lied when they claimed, verbally and in a written statement, that Dr Giwa-Osagie had molested them in separate incidents in December 1990.

Mrs Hall broke down in tears and was comforted by her colleague after the jury awarded £40,000 against her and £5,000 against Miss Smithson. Their employer, Doncaster Health Authority, will pay the damages and legal costs estimated at £300,000.

Mr Justice Drake is to rule later this year on Dr Giwa-Osagie's £1 million claim for lost earnings. The gynaecologist had denied molesting the two midwives, one in a lift and one in front of a patient, and also dismissed claims that he had made suggestive remarks and touched the breasts of other nurses.

The court was told that Mrs Hall claimed he got into a lift with her when she was pregnant and rubbed her stomach. She said the doctor said he wished the baby was his. Dr Giwa-Osagie, who was recently married, denied being in the lift and his lawyer, Ronald Thwaites, QC, said he had patted Mrs Hill's stomach "in an innocent act by way of congratulations".



Giwa-Osagie: claiming £1m for lost earnings

Miss Smithson had complained that Dr Giwa-Osagie molested her in front of a patient and her husband. In her written complaint read to the court she said: "He picked up my hand and proceeded to try to rub it up and down his back trouser pocket."

Dr Giwa-Osagie was suspended after the allegations and put on paid leave until his contract ended, and had been unable to find full employment since. "He was shipwrecked on the rocks by spite and malice," Mr Thwaites told the jury. "He has lost confidence, poise and self-assurance and become a sad and embittered shadow of his former self."

Hazel Brand, communications manager for Doncaster Royal Infirmary, said after the case: "We hope that other NHS staff will not be deterred from raising concerns of a similar nature with their employers and that they will be treated seriously. There are lessons for all, both employers and employees, in this case."

Ash Karim, solicitor for Dr Giwa-Osagie, of Walthamstow, east London, said the doctor hoped to complete his training as an obstetrician and gynaecologist. "As a professional man, Dr Giwa-Osagie always had complete faith in his innocence and the ability of an English jury to recognise the appalling way he suffered at the hands of Doncaster Royal Infirmary and a number of the staff, including consultants, manager, midwives and nurses," Mr Karim said.



The jury decided that Sharron Smithson, left, and Sally Hall had maliciously lied about the doctor

GUY NEWMAN



Linda Ward and her fiancé Mike Sagin, to whom she proposed live on air

TV viewers tune in to presenter's own love story

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

TELEVISION viewers tuned in last night for the second instalment of a love story that found its way into a nightly news bulletin. Linda Ward, a newscaster for Westcountry Television in Plymouth, astonished her boyfriend and thousands of viewers by proposing marriage at the end of her 10.30pm broadcast on Tuesday.

Mike Sagin, watching at home, spilled his tea as his girlfriend said: "On a personal note I would like to ask you to marry me. I love you. I want to share your life." Mr Sagin, 42, a hotelier and managing director of an electronics firm, telephoned Linda later on Tuesday to tell her his answer. Viewers who tuned in last night for the second instalment learnt that the proposal had been accepted.

The couple met earlier this year when Miss Ward, 29, from Plymouth, went to the Alverton Manor Hotel in Truro, owned by Mr Sagin, to film a documentary about weddings called *The Big Day*. Mark Clare, spokesman for Westcountry, said: "It was an impulse, she had five seconds left. All the viewers are really excited; she's a popular lady. We got a call from the Royal Navy helicopter base at Culdrose saying 'If he says no there's a couple of thousand blokes here who'll step in'."

He said Miss Ward would not face disciplinary action but other presenters would not be allowed to follow suit. He said: "They were told if this happened again not such a lenient view would be taken. But it's hard to take action over such a nice thing."

Mr Sagin, who is divorced with two sons and lives on an estate near Falmouth, Cornwall, said yesterday: "It is a private matter and although Linda proposed in a public manner I don't want it oversensationalised. It came as a complete surprise and I was certainly very flattered. I knew straight away it was directed at me. I would have been devastated if it wasn't."

Soldier's bullying claims rejected

BY RICHARD DUCE

A FORMER second lieutenant who claimed that bullying by fellow Army officers drove him to mental breakdown lost all but one of his High Court claims for damages yesterday.

Alastair Green was awarded just £750 over a sexual assault by another former officer ten years ago. It emerged yesterday that Mr Green had turned down an offer of £32,500 paid into court by the Ministry of Defence and the ten named officers. Two of the officers, who served with Mr Green at the 7th Royal Horse Artillery in Aldershot, Hampshire, have died from cancer.

Mr Green, 29, who now lives in Japan and works as an English teacher, was legally aided. The estimated £500,000 costs of the case will be met from public funds.

Mr Green, the son of a former RAF wing commander, had served only four months of his short-service commission with the regiment in 1985 before suffering the first of a series of mental breakdowns brought on, he said, by assaults and sexual abuse at the officers' mess. He then failed to pursue his chosen career as a vet and sued for loss of earnings estimated at £500,000.

In his judgment Mr Justice Popplewell said of Mr Green: "No one could fail to sympathise with him or be moved by the very sad position in which he now finds himself... But I am satisfied that there is a good deal of confusion in his thoughts and recollection and I do not find his evidence sufficiently reliable of itself to be accepted without support by some convincing independent evidence."

Mr Green, speaking from his home near Okinawa, said: "The judgment serves to devalue the plight of those victims of sexual harassment and bullying who have the balls to speak out."

Fugitive manager admits bank theft

BY KATE ALDERSON

A BANK manager who fled to France with almost £100,000 he stole from two cashpoint machines, yesterday pleaded guilty to theft.

Ian Lumb, 38, was on the run for seven months before returning to his wife and two daughters in Rawtenstall, Lancashire, last Christmas. He appeared at Bolton Crown Court and pleaded guilty to stealing £94,020 from the National Westminster Bank in Bolton, where he worked as an assistant bank manager.

Philip Curran, for the defence, asked for an adjournment to allow a medical report to be prepared. Judge Lever, QC, renewed bail and adjourned the case until May 18.

Lumb took the money from the bank's cash dispensers on the evening of Friday, May 13 before driving to France, where he stayed in luxury hotels and played golf. He left behind a string of bad debts which he had accumulated financing an extravagant lifestyle.

☐ The map of London hospital closures (April 6) should have shown that University College Hospital, which does not have a site in Middlesex, will remain in Gower Street. The Royal National Throat Nose and Ear Hospital is not to merge with UCH.

☐ Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society depositors will receive payouts in the £1.8 billion Lloyds Bank takeover (Weekend Money, April 7) provided that their accounts have remained open from March 31 last year to July 31 1995.

☐ Irish naval vessels did not fly the Canadian flag (report, April 11) when they arrested two Spanish fishing vessels earlier this week.



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Primary pupils would bear brunt of teachers' action

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION EDITOR

A RISING school population has seen class sizes grow during the 1990s after two decades in which they fell. This autumn is likely to see more than 25 pupils in the average state school class for the first time since the early 1970s.

Although secondary school classes are growing, relatively few will reach the maximum of 31 pupils set yesterday by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers as a cut-off point for industrial action. Only 5.3 per cent of secondary classes contained more than 30 pupils last year. Primary schools would be worst affected. Already a third of classes contain more than 30 pupils, and almost 98,000 children are in classes of more than 35.

Britain has some of the lowest primary school staffing levels in a list of comparable nations published this week by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The pressure on school budgets after the Government's refusal to fund the teachers' pay rise is certain to see the position deteriorate further. Pupil numbers are expected to rise by 381,000 over three years at a time when many schools are having to shed staff. A survey by Professor Alan Smithers, of Manchester University, for *The Times Educational Supplement*, found that up to 14,000 teaching jobs were likely to be lost this summer.

The survey also uncovered regional differences: primary schools in the East Midlands and North West tended to have larger classes, while the South West had much the worst secondary school staffing.

Experts differ on the effect of class size, but most parents appear to be in little doubt. The issue dominates annual meetings in state schools, and the smaller classes in independent schools are acknowledged as an important part of their appeal. Independent schools have half the number of pupils per teacher. Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, has insisted that there is no evidence to link small changes in class sizes with pupils' levels of achievement.

Although some Far Eastern countries produce impressive results in classes of more than 40, in much of Europe there are legal limits of 30 or even 25 pupils. Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece and Norway all have some legislation covering class size, and Scottish schools are limited to 33 pupils per class through teachers' conditions of service.

In England and Wales, schools have a long way to go to match the numbers seen in the 1950s and 1960s, when classes of 40 in primary schools and 30 in secondary schools were the norm. A change in teaching styles, away from whole-class instruction, required more generous staffing.

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Janet Daley, page 14
Leading article, page 15

UNIONS' TARGETS

The 12 authorities with the most pupils in classes over 30

	Number	%
Hampshire	49,059	29.6
Kent	48,466	22.2
Staffordshire	41,155	27.1
Essex	39,110	18.8
Cheshire	38,046	26.7
Birmingham	35,049	22.6
Derbyshire	33,575	25.6
Humberside	31,218	23.9
Avon	29,980	23.8
Hertfordshire	27,147	19.5
Devon	25,489	19.5
Leeds	23,141	23.5

Source: Education department survey, January 1994

WORLD LEAGUE

Pupils per teacher:	Primary	Secondary
Belgium	13.0	6.7
Italy	10.5	9.0
Austria	12.2	9.4
Denmark	11.1	9.6
Hungary	12.6	12.7
Australia	18.0	12.8
Czech Rep	22.9	13.3
France	20.2	14.0
Spain	18.8	15.3
UK	21.2	15.5
Sweden	11.9	16.0
Japan	19.8	16.3
Germany	19.6	16.4

Source: Education at a Glance OECD comparisons for 1992

BOB COLLIER



Gillian Shephard with delegates at the Association of Teachers and Lecturers' conference in Harrogate, where a ballot for industrial action was approved



Britons plan record getaway

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

AN EASTER record of 1.6 million Britons will leave the country today by sea, air and train. Air and ferry ports expect their busiest weekend of the year so far.

Holidaymakers staying in Britain, who can expect three or four days of spring sunshine and mild temperatures, were warned by motoring organisations of traffic jams on all routes to seaside resorts from today.

The Automobile Association said that by this afternoon England would turn into "one big traffic jam". Although the Easter break has started early and rush-hour traffic has been lighter since Monday, long delays will build up quickly from lunchtime and continue until late on Friday.

Probable trouble spots include the M25, the M4 in south Wales, the M5 in Gloucestershire and the M56 in Greater Manchester. The AA said there may be delays on approach roads to Dover caused by animal rights protesters after yesterday's court decision allowing live animal exports from the port.

The London Weather Centre forecasts three warm, sunny days until Saturday with temperatures as high as 17C. By Sunday cloud will move in from the north and on Monday temperatures will drop to 10C with showers in the east and north.

More than 500,000 people will leave from Heathrow. Gatwick is expecting 230,000 passengers and Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow airports are prepared for a total of 300,000. Ferry ports will be busy with about 350,000 passengers. Channel Tunnel traffic is expected to be heavy.

Eurostar hitch, page 1
Travel, page 21
Forecast, page 22

NEWS IN BRIEF

One-year sentence for Hurley muggers

Four teenage girls who mugged the model and actress Elizabeth Hurley at knifepoint were sentenced to a year in a young offenders' institution by Southwark Crown Court yesterday.

Judge Butler, QC, told Christina Guerrine and Carlene Irving, both 18, and 17-year-olds Tamara Flowers and Helen Danso, who wielded the knife, that it was irrelevant that the victim was famous. He said the robbery was "thoroughly nasty".

The four, all from London, have been in custody since November and face only about a further month in jail.

Defeat for Silcott

Winston Silcott lost his appeal against a court ruling blocking part of his civil claim against the Metropolitan Police. Silcott, 34, whose conviction for the murder of PC Keith Blakelock was quashed in 1991, will be allowed to sue only for malicious prosecution.

Body identified

The body of a woman found in a pond near Guildford last week was confirmed yesterday as that of Catherine Boot, 37. The waitress went missing from a Burger King restaurant in the town last month. A post-mortem examination showed she had died from severe head injuries.

Top teacher

Audrey Wisbey, of Cranleigh, Surrey, who uses pioneering techniques to teach dyslexic children at Nanhurst School, was named teacher of the year at a ceremony in London. She was chosen from 13 regional finalists and received £5,000.

Boy rapists

Patrick Djima, who was 14 when he raped an 11-year-old girl at knifepoint, was sent to detention for 4½ years by the Old Bailey. At Lewes Crown Court, East Sussex, another boy who was 14 when he raped a girl of 10 received six years' detention.

150-acre blaze

About 170 firemen, soldiers and forestry workers, aided by helicopters, fought a 150-acre moorland and forest blaze that threatened the villages of Harbottle and Rothbury, Northumberland. Gamekeepers started the fires to control heather.

Murder appeal

The Court of Appeal has reserved judgment on the case of Sheila Bowler, a teacher jailed two years ago for the murder of her aunt. Counsel for Bowler, of Rye, East Sussex, said she had been convicted because of incompetent defence.

Scots go Dutch

BBC Radio Scotland has linked with Radio Netherlands for a seven-part series to be broadcast in both countries. Subjects include minority languages and island life. The Dutch have supplied four free programmes, in English, in return for three.

Family allowed to exhume 'grandad'

BY KATE ALDERSON

A FAMILY banned by a vicar from having the words "grandad" and "dad" on a tombstone won a church court battle yesterday to remove their relative's remains to a new burial site.

Charles and Wendy Brown had challenged a ruling dating back to William the Conqueror to have the body of Mr Brown's father, Frederick, removed from the graveyard of Holy Trinity parish church at Freckleton, Lancashire.

At a consistory court hearing in Burnley Crown Court, a judge ruled that the family could move Mr Brown's body because they had been "unintentionally misled" by the Church of England.

Outside the court Mr Brown, 39, who for two years has been placing flowers on an unmarked grave, said: "We are very relieved at the decision because it has been a great strain. I'm amazed this situation has unfolded over these two simple words."

The Rev Stephen Brian, the vicar at Freckleton, had refused to allow the Browns to inscribe a gravestone "Much Loved Husband, Dad and Grandad", because he said it was inappropriate. His ban on what he called "pet phrases" was upheld by a consistory court in August 1994.

The family sought permission to move Mr Brown's body to a civic cemetery at Lytham, where the wording would be allowed. They argued that other gravestones at Freckleton used similar words and they had not known of the vicar's relatively new ruling until they went to order a headstone.

During the hearing George Spafford, a recorder and Chancellor of the Manchester diocese, said that laws passed by William the Conqueror, who objected to alterations to Saxon churches and graveyards, made necessary an application to exhume.

He said: "I am strongly of the opinion that the consistory court should act to mitigate this unintentional misleading, therefore the petition is allowed.

"If they [the Browns] had known they would not be able to use these words, the deceased would not be buried where he is."

Extremists spread propaganda and terror on Internet

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE Internet is giving extremists "a previously undreamed of possibility" for spreading racist and anti-semitic propaganda, a conference was told yesterday. Bomb-making instructions and computer games such as *Achtung Nazi*, in which the aim is to gas as many Jews as possible, are being posted on the worldwide computer link.

Denials that the Holocaust had taken place, glorification of the Third Reich, and hate articles about prominent Jewish families are readily available.

Mike Whine, of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said the global reach of the Internet and its anarchic nature had presented "a seemingly insurmountable challenge to would-be regulators".

He told the conference, *Governance of Cyberspace*, that the Internet represented a "previously undreamed of possibility for both propagating racism, and allowing racists to access each other's ideas and resources". The bomb-making details, which came from American extremists, may have been used by Austrian Nazis for recent blasts, Mr Whine said.

But he believed that action could be taken in Britain under the Public Order Act 1986, which forbids distribution of racially inflammatory material.

The Internet is a worldwide network of computers, linked by telephone lines, along which vast amounts of information can be moved instantly. Up to 30 million people are believed to be connected to the Internet, which is growing fast.

The conference, at Teesside University, is examining the legal issues raised by the computer network on which information is frequently exchanged with scant regard for libel, copyright infringement, contempt of court or laws on pornography or racism.

The conference organiser, Dr Brian Loader, a senior lecturer in policy studies at the university, said Internet users had been able to read details of the committal proceedings against Rosemary West, charged with ten murders in Gloucester, which newspapers could not publish under contempt of court rules.

Dr Roger Burrows, Reader in Sociology at the Teesside University, said: "The Internet is a massive new communications system, a network without frontiers, without laws and with no one there to say that you cannot say that or you must not see this. Suddenly, governments are waking up to the realisation that this is an information highway without any way to police its users."

Dr Stephen Mooney, of the London School of Economics, said that the development of information technology threatened to undermine the "foundation, power and authority" of the nation state. The result would be a continuing fragmentation of the state as economic power was transferred to the "cyberstate". The nation state would be reduced "to little more than a large property management company or theme park", while the experts in information technology would form "an international free-floating pool of talent" generating unprecedented wealth.

Dave Carter, of Manchester City Council, will tell the conference today that the network could be socially divisive. "Within a few years communicating via the Internet will be as familiar as using the telephone, but only if you have the necessary skills and can afford the technology in the first place."

Heart girl prepares for return to Bosnia

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

GEORGE WILKIE



Menira Drace: "She has a vibrant personality and amazing forbearance"



A BOSNIAN girl who has undergone heart surgery in a Scottish hospital will fly back to the war-torn city of Mostar next week.

Twelve-year-old Menira Drace, who was born with a large hole in her heart and is only 3ft tall because of a growth problem, will return to an uncertain future and a partly destroyed flat where she will share a bedroom with her mother, father and nine-year-old brother.

More than 17,000 children have been killed in Bosnia in the past three years. Mladen Grbin, chairman of the Scottish charity S.O.S. for Children, said: "There is the potential for real danger on her return. The arrangement was that she would be in Britain for a short time. She always understood that she would return. We have not asked her if she would prefer to stay in Britain. It would be an unfair question. It was never an option."

He said that Menira had shown great courage and had never complained. "She has a very vibrant personality. There was an enormous incision in her tiny body but she never once complained about the pain. She has amazing forbearance."

Asked if she had a favourite toy, Mr Grbin said: "No. She is not a child who would cling to any one thing. She has lost everything."

The family's original home was destroyed by shelling. Menira's father has been wounded by a sniper and she has seen a dozen people killed in the past three years. She is one of a dozen children from the war zone being treated in British hospitals under the Government-backed Operation Irma scheme. Seven-year-old Irma Hadzimuratovic, whose plight launched the mission, died in London this month.

Doctors in Glasgow said that Menira should have been operated on two years ago but because of the war no Mostar hospital was able to treat her. She arrived in Britain with her mother Edina last month for open-heart surgery at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Yorkhill, Glasgow. Her operation took five hours and she was in intensive care for 48 hours.

Since her discharge she and her mother have been living with a Bosnian family in Glasgow but their visas will soon expire. Yesterday they returned to the hospital to say goodbye to the doctors and nurses.

Asked if she was frighted by the thought of returning, Menira nodded but added that she was anxious to see her father Maid, a civil servant, and her little brother, Mithad.

Dr William Doig, a consultant paediatric cardiologist, said that she was an extraordinary girl of whom he had grown very fond. "If she had not had this operation she would have become more and more tired and more debilitated," he said. "It was an essential operation."

Food is so scarce in Bosnia that when Menira arrived in Britain she had forgotten the taste of meat, fish and cheese. Her stay in Glasgow has made up for that and introduced her to the delights of chocolate and chips.

Her mother described through an interpreter how she climbed mountains to search for food parcels that she had heard had been dropped by parachute. Once, when the family had not eaten for two days, she returned empty-handed after hours of searching.

S.O.S for Children has set up a fund to ensure that Menira gets the medicine she needs. The £2,000 cost of Menira's trip was met by Professor David Southall, a paediatrician at Keele University. Yorkhill NHS Trust paid for the treatment.

Mission foiled, page 9

Mental activity 'staves off dementia'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

THE more you use your brain the less likely you are to succumb to dementia, researchers have found. The "use it or lose it" hypothesis has received new backing from a study which suggests that education is the best defence against the debilitating condition which strikes one in five people over 80.

The study of 7,500 people in Rotterdam aged over 55, published in the *British Medical Journal*, found that those with the equivalent of A levels or university degrees were up to three times less likely to suffer dementia than those whose education ceased at GCSE level. An accompanying editorial suggests that a good education and continuing mental activity may protect against degeneration of the brain cells.

Alternatively, education may increase the number of neuronal contacts linking brain cells so that when some cells die others take over similar tasks, minimising the effects of degeneration.

☐ Tuberculosis, a disease linked with poverty, has risen 12 per cent in the past five years after declining for most of the 20th century. Researchers report in the *British Medical Journal* that the disease is ten times commoner in the poorest tenth of districts in England and Wales than in the richest tenth.

Gene tests may show Shetland origins

BY A STAFF REPORTER

SCIENTISTS are to study the genes of Shetland islanders in an attempt to establish their racial origins.

The islanders have long debated their roots: some believe they are descended from Vikings who colonised the islands in 800 AD and wiped out the indigenous Celtic population. Others claim they can trace their roots to Pict communities that survived in isolated areas.

Proteins that lie on the surface of white blood cells, and which can determine the compatibility of organ donors and recipients, are to be analysed to try to settle the argument. These human lymphocyte antigens show considerable variation between different ethnic groups and may be used as genetic "markers" to try to trace population movements.

The blood samples will be taken from 100 Shetlanders who can trace their origins back at least three generations. But Brian Smith, archivist for Shetlands Islands Council, doubts that this will settle the argument. "To try to determine the true origin of the Shetlander is quite impossible," he said. "The only way to find out such a thing is through documents, but they fail us when it comes to periods as far back as 800 AD."

Scientists revive black hole theory

BY NIGEL HAWKES



THERE is a massive black hole at the centre of our galaxy, according to calculations by scientists in America. They say that the black hole is a radio source called Sagittarius A*, and is sucking in gas from the surrounding region of space.

The idea that the Milky Way has a black hole in the middle is not new but has recently fallen out of favour because observations have shown that the X-rays believed to be emitted as a result of the black hole gulping in gas were far less powerful than expected. Sagittarius A* produces only a weak X-ray signal.

Dr Ramesh Narayan and two colleagues from the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre for Astrophysics at Cambridge, Massachusetts, have produced a model that accounts neatly for the observed X-ray flux while retaining the idea of the black hole.

The answer, they report in this week's issue of *Nature*, is that the black hole is itself eating most of the energy it produces. Instead of being emitted as radiation, the energy is carried along with the gas and swallowed into the black hole, whose mass is about 700,000 times that of the Sun.

Astronomers believe that many galaxies have black holes at their centres because of the behaviour of stars and gas clouds in the vicinity. Their motions are most easily understood by supposing that they are under the influence of a massive black hole up to a million times heavier than the Sun.

However, Sagittarius A* is inconspicuous except for its radio emissions. Dr Narayan and his colleagues have now explained why this is by suggesting that gas attracted to the black hole gets hot, but before it has time to radiate its energy it is sucked into the black hole and disappears forever.

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Dole campaign hit by pledge to repeal guns ban

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

ROBERT DOLE'S presidential campaign developed a serious wobble yesterday over his promise to try to repeal last year's ban on assault weapons in the United States.

There were indications that he had committed a political gaffe and had created a rift among his associates that could also cause problems among potential contributors.

Mr Dole, the early front-runner in the campaign, made the pledge to the National Rifle Association, the powerful and perennial protector of Americans' constitutional right to bear arms, no matter how fearful the weapons nor how widespread the deaths and injuries caused on the streets of America's cities.

In a letter to the association, Mr Dole said gun control was an ineffective approach to making communities safer. "Disarming law-abiding citizens only places them at the mercy of those who break the law," he said. A legislative priority for him this year was the scrapping of President Clinton's ban on 19 types of assault weapons, including AK47s and the notorious "Street Sweeper".

Mr Dole, the seasoned leader of the Republican majority in the Senate, formally announced on Monday that he would seek his party's nomination to run against Mr Clinton next year. He holds a commanding lead in a field of nine candidates, with opinion polls putting him 30 points ahead of his closest rival, Phil Gramm, a Texas senator.

However, the campaign is pulling him sharply to the right in search of votes in Republican primaries. Polls show that 70 per cent of the public at large support the weapons ban, but in New Hampshire, where the key first primary is held, nearly half the registered Republicans are gun owners and 25,000 of them are members of the asssociation.

Mr Dole did not consult his advisers before writing to the association. One of them told the *Los Angeles Times*: "We all climbed up and down on him about it. Everybody gave him a bad time. He realised it was a big mistake."

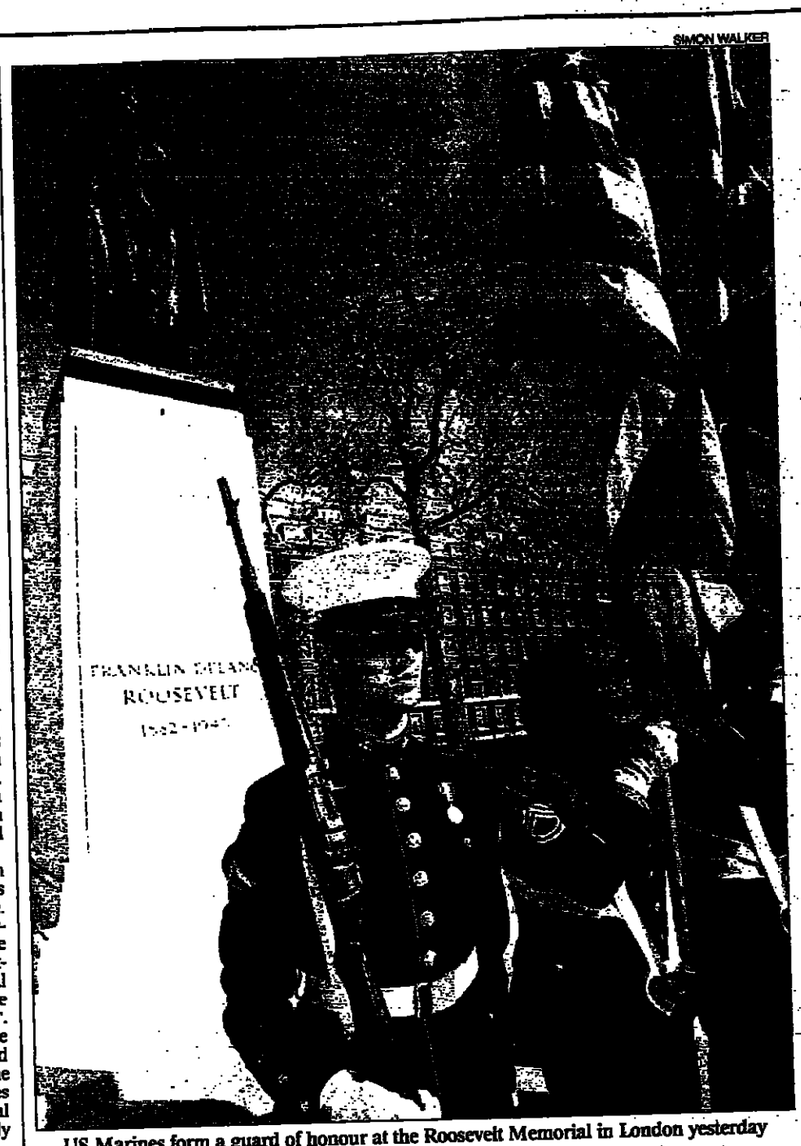
Republicans would probably have no trouble repealing the ban in the House of Representatives, but Democrats have promised to lead a filibuster in the Senate where there was disbelief that Mr Dole would even try to restore the weapons for sale to the public. Mr Clinton has promised to veto any repeal law, ensuring that any resulting damage would be confined to Mr Dole's crusade to take over in the White House.

As a measure of the problem Mr Dole has created for himself, 100 national organisations, including the Parent-Teacher Association and the American Medical Association, have signed resolutions promising to fight any repeal of the ban on assault weapons.

The campaign is led by America's foremost anti-gun campaigner, Sarah Brady, whose husband, James, was disabled in the assassination attempt on President Reagan. The Brady Bill, imposing a five-day waiting period on gun purchases, has been opposed by the association.

Mr Dole drew a distinction between his support for guns and his opposition to violence. Indeed, he denounced Hollywood for putting profit above common decency by promoting casual sex and casual violence that "poisons the minds of our young people". On a week-long tour, the senator also encouraged school prayer, proving that he is prepared to provide lures for conservatives on social issues that he has traditionally avoided.

SIMON WALKER



US Marines form a guard of honour at the Roosevelt Memorial in London yesterday

Quiet tribute to Britain's 'great friend' Roosevelt

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE Last Post, played by a trumpeter of the Royal Marines, sounded across Grosvenor Square in London yesterday in tribute to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States who died 50 years ago on April 12, 1945, less than a month before the end of the war in Europe.

In warm sunshine William Crowe, the US Ambassador to Britain, laid a wreath at the Roosevelt Memorial, which bears the inscriptions of the President's four freedoms — freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear. He was followed by Princess Michael of Kent; Tony Newton, the Leader of the Commons; and Lord Carrington, the former Nato Secretary-General, on behalf of The Pilgrims, the Anglo-American society whose members raised the £40,000 needed to pay for the memorial.

With Lord Camoys representing the Queen, yesterday's ceremony scarcely bore comparison with the unveiling of the memorial itself, on the third anniversary of Roosevelt's death, by his widow, Eleanor. The guests then included King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, Winston Churchill, Clement Attlee, senior Cabinet ministers and leaders of the diplomatic service, the armed services, and representatives of the Church and the legal profession.

The event merited several columns in *The Times*, which had earlier devoted much space to protracted and acrimonious debates in Parliament and in the press over the form the memorial should take. Correspondents raised issues ranging from the suitability of the design and its setting to the question of whether, as a victim of polio, the President should be depicted standing or sitting at his desk. Its construction was finally authorised in a Bill passed by both Houses of Parliament without dissent.

At the unveiling Attlee, the Prime Minister, described the statue as a tribute to "a great friend", the successor of Washington and Lincoln, whose services were given in an even wider cause of freedom. Churchill extolled Roosevelt as "the greatest American friend of Britain ever found".

Yesterday there were no speeches, only two short prayers read by the Rt Rev David Say, the honorary chaplain of The Pilgrims, while a guard of honour from both the British and American armed services provided a reminder of the wartime alliance. While Americans today may recall Roosevelt mainly as the architect of the New Deal, the man who rescued his country from the Great Depression and who instigated far-reaching social and economic reforms, to Britons he remains the friend who came to this country's aid in its darkest hour.

Churchill said of Roosevelt that he had decisively and permanently changed the social and moral axis of mankind by involving the New World irrevocably in the fortunes of the Old.

How Truman met the call of destiny

BY IAN BRODIE

VICE-PRESIDENT Harry Truman was drinking with the boys in a back room of Congress when he received the summons that changed his place in history.

He had just poured a bourbon in the private sanctum of Speaker Sam Rayburn when someone remembered there was a message for Truman to telephone the White House. He dialled the number and was told to come "as quickly and quietly as possible". Visibly shaken, Truman made for the door. He paused at the threshold and said: "Boys, this is in the room. Something must have happened."

He raced through the Capitol, shoes pounding on the marble floor, grabbed his hat and was driven to the White House, where Eleanor Roosevelt put an arm on his shoulder and told him that Franklin Roosevelt had died. Truman remained silent for a long time, struggling to find the right words. Finally, he asked: "Is there anything I can do for you?" She replied: "Is there anything we can do for you? You're the one in trouble now."

Thus it was, 50 years ago yesterday, that Truman, a failed haberdasher, a Democratic party machine politician and the compromise choice for Vice-President, was catapulted into the presidency amid widespread alarm that he was a nonentity not up to the job.

How wrong they were. Buoyed by an inner strength and Midwestern rectitude, Truman became a towering force in shaping global events. Roosevelt had told him nothing of the atomic bomb, but in August Truman ordered two to be dropped on Japan, ending the Second World War. Later, he instigated the Berlin airlift, the Marshall plan to revitalise postwar Europe, America's refusal to yield to Soviet expansion, and the Korean War. Yesterday he was honoured in Washington for his crucial support in the birth of Israel in 1948.

President Clinton flew to the cottage in Warm Springs, Georgia, where Roosevelt died of a stroke, and sought to take credit for following FDR's legacy. He emphasised the benefits of Roosevelt's GI Bill of Rights, which guaranteed a college education to returning war veterans, and promoted the education and job training proposals of his own Administration.

He gave an award to Jonas Salk, inventor of the vaccine that halted poliomyelitis, the once-dreaded disease that left Roosevelt paralysed in both legs.



Truman: "nonentity" who became a towering force

US looks for holes in finances of moles

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IN the wake of the Aldrich Ames scandal, American intelligence agents are preparing to submit their financial records for scrutiny to prove that they are not spying for a foreign power.

Under an order being drafted for the White House, President Clinton is expected to alter the rules governing access to the previously private files of several million government employees and military personnel. The directive, which will apply to anyone who has clearance for classified information, would allow investigators to delve into bank statements, credit histories and any documents relating to foreign travel.

A smaller group of several hundred thousand people with access to the most sensitive security material will be asked to submit periodic financial statements covering themselves and their families.

The change in policy is a direct legacy of the Ames affair, in which a senior CIA counter-intelligence officer was found to have spied for the KGB for nearly a decade. Ames is thought to have been paid more than $2 million (£1.28 million) by Moscow.

Since then, the agency has been trying to establish a post-Cold War role for the organisation and attempting to rebuild ties with the White House, Congress and the FBI. Yesterday it emerged that the CIA had asked Congress for $19 million to continue its covert operations in the Middle East to destabilise Iraq and curb military expansion in Iran. This is in line with the Administration's wish to contain the two "rogue states".

About $15 million will be spent against Iraq, aimed at weakening but not overthrowing President Saddam Hussein, and funding opposition groups such as the Iraqi National Congress in London.

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WOKING Town Centre

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POOLE/BOURNEMOUTH Dorset Way
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NEWBURY On A339 Rochester Airport.
SOUTHAMPTON City Centre.

EAST ANGLIA
IPSWICH Jct. A12/A45 by Tesco.
PETERBOROUGH On Bourges Blvd.

MIDLANDS
SHREWSBURY At Meole Brace Retail Park, alongside Sainsbury on A49 (Hereford Rd.) just north of A5 By-pass.
COVENTRY Just south of Jct. 2, M6/A429 by cinema complex.
SOLIHULL Marshall Lake Rd off A34 near Sainsbury.
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DERBY On A52 Nottingham/Derby Rd.
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PLYMOUTH Western Approach, City Centre.
BRISTOL Jct. 17, M5.
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هدية من الاهل



A Bosnian Serb crew loading ammunition on their tank at Majevica, overlooking the "safe area" of Tuzla

Serb major blocks peace flight into Sarajevo

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

IN THE kind of affront to which officials from Western states are growing accustomed, a major in the Bosnian Serb army yesterday cancelled a flight meant to carry diplomats on a peace mission to Sarajevo.

Representatives from the Contact Group of America, Britain, France, Germany, and Russia had hoped to meet Bosnian government leaders in the capital during the morning. The visit, along with meetings in Zagreb and Belgrade, was part of the group's latest attempt to achieve a peace agreement.

Half an hour after the Contact Group was to have arrived, Serb forces fired at least one mortar shell into the city centre, wounding five or six civilians. Sarajevo police kept pedestrians from stepping on the crater or walking through blood on the pavement as they waited for United Nations troops to investigate.

In Gorazde, another "safe area" in eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serb gunners fired a handful of mortar bombs into the town yesterday.

A UN official meanwhile reported that Bosnian government forces had twice launched helicopter attacks in the Dorni Vakuf area of central Bosnia this week in clear violation of the Nato-enforced ban on combat flights.

Michael Williams, the UN spokesman, said: "On Monday a helicopter was observed dropping some bombs or missile projectiles near the town." The helicopter attacked again on Tuesday, he added. "It was a clear and flagrant violation of the no-fly zone."

In Sarajevo, a UN spokesman said that as the helicopter flew over the Serb-held area on Tuesday, peacekeepers observed muzzle flashes followed by 20 explosions.

Bosnian Serbs have been playing a cat-and-mouse game with peacekeepers and Nato warplanes for the past few weeks. Yesterday's frustrated diplomatic effort is just the latest example of Serb pressure on the UN.

The Serb major told a senior UN official that the Contact Group officials would not be allowed to fly to the city. He suggested that they drive to Sarajevo through Serb-held territory, which would have taken five hours longer than flying from Zagreb.

The officer said he was acting on orders from General Ratko Mladic, commander of the Bosnian Serb Army. On Tuesday night, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, gave permission for the flight.

Since they fired on an American relief flight on Saturday, the Serbs have kept the UN-controlled airport out of commission with threats to target other aircraft.

"It is amazing," said a Western diplomat in disbelief. "This must be the most powerful country in the world if they can send away the big powers just like that."

Last year the Serbs in effect vetoed a long-planned visit to the encircled capital by the Pope. In that case, as in many others, senior officials issued veiled threats about not being able to guarantee the safety of the flight in question.

A number of other senior international figures have been similarly prevented from visiting the Bosnian capital, including President Demirel of Turkey.

Heart girl goes home, page 7

Troops storm parliament to end Belorussia protest

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

ARMED soldiers stormed into the parliament of the former Soviet republic of Belorussia yesterday to expel nationalist opposition deputies on hunger strike against the administration of President Lukashenko. Mecheslav Grib, the parliamentary chairman, said: "Belorussia has never been so close to civil war."

The Popular Front deputies are protesting against a planned referendum on extending presidential powers. They accuse Mr Lukashenko of "taking the Central Asian path", in other words, of following the leaders of the former Soviet republics of Central Asia on the road to authoritarian rule.

Mr Lukashenko wants to accompany the parliamentary elections due on May 14 with a four-part referendum asking the people to give him more powers over the economy and in the battle against crime. The key question would, if approved, change the constitution to allow Mr Lukashenko to dissolve the parliament at will.

In a furious speech to the assembly on Tuesday, delivered over the heads of the hunger-striking deputies, sitting on the steps of the parliamentary rostrum, Mr Lukashenko yelled that even if the assembly voted to block the referendum, he would go ahead and dissolve the parliament anyway. Yesterday's move showed that he means business.



Lukashenko: seeking power over parliament

Mr Lukashenko, a populist political outsider and collective farm manager, was elected president last year by an overwhelming majority, in the teeth of opposition both from the then former Communist government and the nationalist Popular Front. Both are now to differing degrees determined to bring him down.

In his election campaign, Mr Lukashenko pledged to improve living standards through closer relations with Russia, the rebuilding of the Soviet Union, and a war against official corruption. Since then, his anti-corruption campaign has become totally bogged down by bureaucratic and police resistance, the heavily subsidised economy has continued to decline, the provisional currency has dropped steeply in value, and Russia has refused to come to Belorussia's aid in agreeing to a currency union.

Mr Lukashenko's growing exasperation with the parliament and authoritarian tendencies is part of a general trend. The Ukrainian parliament yesterday also saw heated debate over a law extending the powers of President Kuchma. Mr Kuchma and members of his Government walked out in protest when a parliamentary commission chairman said that the law would lead to presidential dictatorship and the virtual extinction of elected local government.

Economic black day for Moscow

BY ANATOL LIEVEN

THREE strokes of economic bad news in Russia yesterday underlined how difficult the country's situation remains and why Russia will be keen to receive the first of its International Monetary Fund loans, part of a $6.8 billion package agreed last month.

The rouble slipped below 5,000 to the dollar for the first time, the Finance Minister admitted that revenues are $1.4 billion short for the first quarter of this year, and thousands of Russian miners and workers in Siberia and the Far East staged a one-day strike to demand the release of government credits so that their long-delayed wages can be paid.

The IMF's loan to Russia — the second biggest in its history — is the biggest to Russia from any single Western source. The first $1 billion will be paid to Russia this month, followed by $500 million on a monthly basis.

In spite of yesterday's bad news, the loan is a striking sign of how Russia's economic and political image has recovered from its all-time low at the start of the bloody Chechen war last December. Last month Michel Camdessus, the IMF's managing director, praised Russia's "bold and ambitious" economic reform programme, and said he believed the Russian economy may begin to grow again this year, after four years of steep decline.

Leading article, page 15

Tajik rebels fight on

Dushanbe: Russian-led border guards in Tajikistan and rebels from the eastern province of Gorno-Badakhshan fought yesterday, but said they had the situation under control.

The clashes, in which the Russian-dominated contingent of Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) troops said it had inflicted heavy losses, came after five days of fighting with separate Islamic rebels from neighbouring Afghanistan.

Andrei Nikolayev, commander of Russian border troops, said 34 Commonwealth border guards had been killed and more than 50 wounded since last Friday. He said the total rebel death toll was about 200. "We fully control the situation," he added.

Peace talks between the border troops and leaders of the Gorno-Badakshan rebels failed to produce any agreement. border command sources said. The Tajik Government said, however, that it was still ready to resume negotiations in Moscow in the next few days. *(Reuter)*

O.J. police caught out on 'trail of blood'

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A POLICE witness has been caught in a lie by defence lawyers in the O. J. Simpson murder trial, who pressed home their advantage by formally accusing the prosecution of trying to engineer a mistrial.

Barry Scheck, the defence attorney, resumed his attack on Dennis Fung, who was in charge of collecting evidence at the scene of the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson, the one-time footballer's former wife, and Ronald Goldman, her friend. Mr Scheck, the surprise star of the Simpson's trial, used photographs, videotape and excited rhetoric to tie Mr Fung in knots and open gaps in the "trail of blood" that prosecutors claim links Mr Simpson to the killings.

Mr Scheck first challenged Mr Fung to point out blood on a gate near Brown Simpson's apartment in a photograph taken the day after she died. "Where is it, Mr Fung? Where is it?" the lawyer cried. His words are likely to haunt the prosecution, for Mr Fung could not see the blood in the first picture, although he could in another, taken three weeks later, which Mr Scheck produced.

Later on Tuesday, Mr Scheck revealed that more apparently incriminating blood on socks taken from Mr Simpson's bedroom was not discovered until seven weeks after the murders. Both revelations will bolster the defence argument that police framed Mr Simpson.

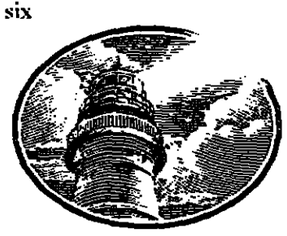
The worst was yet to come for the tired Mr Fung, who strenuously denied touching with bare hands an envelope found near Goldman's body. Mr Scheck promptly showed a video freeze-frame of him doing precisely that.

Mr Simpson's defence, meanwhile, filed a motion demanding an investigation into the dismissal of a black juror last week. The motion accused prosecutors of trying to weed out pro-Simpson jurors.

April 13 - unlucky for some

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Britain to stop making nuclear arms material

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is expected to announce next week an end to the production of weapons-grade nuclear material as part of a policy decision to demonstrate the Government's commitment to disarmament.

The announcement, to be made by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, in New York on Tuesday, follows the decision to scrap the RAF's WE177 nuclear free-fall bomb nine years earlier than planned, and to end nuclear testing.

Although the Government is ready to sign a convention banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons, the Ministry of Defence will go ahead with recycling the nuclear fuel in the warheads of the 100 WE177 bombs. The fuel from the bombs, which are to be scrapped by 1998, will be added to the limited stockpile of weapons-grade material in Britain.

It is understood that Britain would not have enough fissile material for the new Trident nuclear warheads, designed by the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston in Berkshire, without recycling the fuel from the WE177 bombs.

All weapons-grade nuclear material is produced under contract by British Nuclear Fuels at their Magnox reprocessing plant at Sellafield, near Whitehaven in Cumbria. The weapons-grade fuel production represents 10 per cent of its business.

An agreement was reached last month on a mandate for a convention banning the production of fissile material "for explosive purposes".

Mr Hurd's announcement is expected during a speech in New York at the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review and extension conference. The five nuclear powers are pushing for an unconditional and indefinite extension that which would require approval by just over 50 per cent of the 175 member nations.

Mr Hurd will also reconfirm the Government's willingness to consider entering nuclear arms negotiations, but only when the arsenals of the United States and Russia have been reduced to a much lower level.

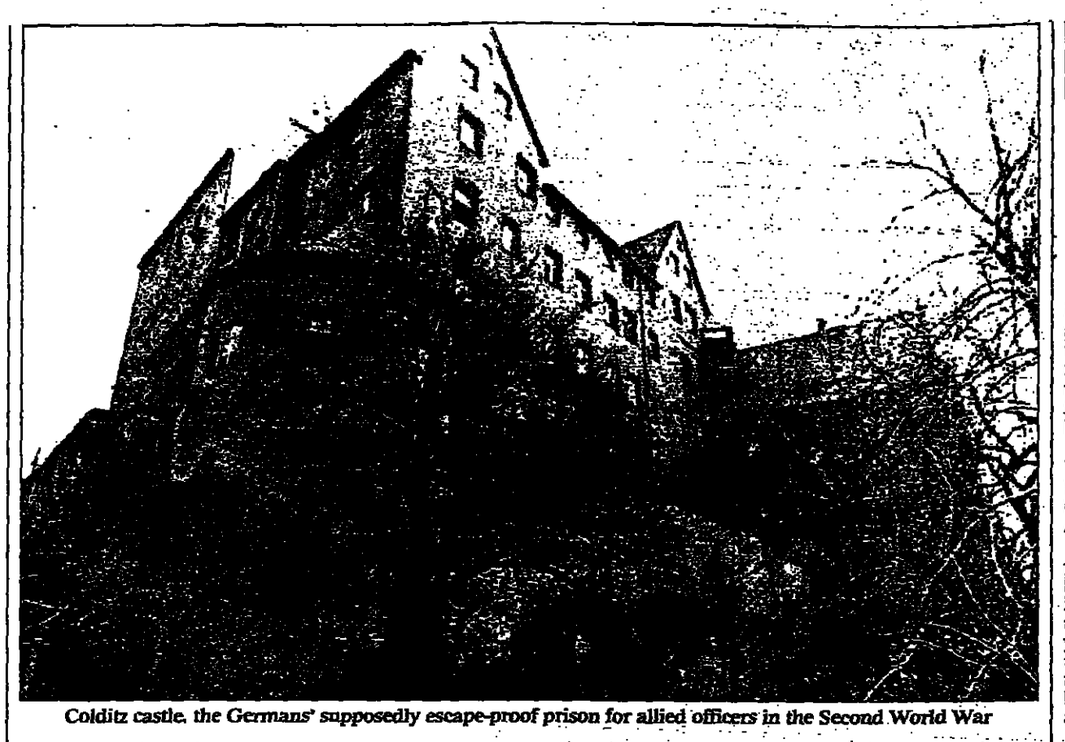
Under the Start 2 (Strategic Arms Reduction Talks) treaty, which has yet to be ratified, Washington and Moscow have agreed to reduce their strategic nuclear warhead stocks to 3,500 each by 2003.

British defence sources said yesterday that by the time Start 2 was implemented, Britain's nuclear warhead stocks would still represent less than 10 per cent of the 3,500 ceiling. Although the Ministry of Defence declined to say how many warheads would be in the British arsenal, the indications are that the total would be between 300 and 350.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, announced in 1993 that no more than 96 warheads would be carried on each of the four Trident submarines. Trident will be Britain's sole nuclear deterrent system once the WE177 bombs have been scrapped.

Government policy on Britain's possible involvement in nuclear arms reduction talks was set by Sir Geoffrey Howe, when he was Foreign Secretary. In a speech to the United Nations Security Council in 1982, Sir Geoffrey said that Britain would consider joining negotiations under certain circumstances.

British defence sources are optimistic that the conference in New York will lead to an indefinite extension of the treaty. Underlining the positive influence the treaty has had since being signed 25 years ago, the sources said that in the 1960s it was feared that there could be between 25 and 30 more nuclear weapons states by the end of the century. Only three additional countries are known to possess, or to have the capability to produce, nuclear weapons: Israel, India and Pakistan.



Colditz castle, the Germans' supposedly escape-proof prison for allied officers in the Second World War

Colditz veterans shun 'sales pitch'

FROM ROGER BOYES IN COLDITZ

THE burghers of Colditz, site of the fortress prison for Allied troublemakers, will this weekend mark their liberation with concerts, a debate and exhibitions that have half an eye on luring new British investors to save the cold, sinister castle. Colditz veterans, concerned that the commemorations are a publicity stunt and sales pitch, disapprove and are staying away.

The 700-year-old castle — used after the war as a mental asylum and an old people's home — has left a lasting mark on the British consciousness, exemplifying a chirpy public-school spirit that can overcome the most trying of circumstances. Many of the relics featured in the film and book are still to be seen: the mousetrap converted into a radio transmitter, the German medals made from cardboard, the copied uniforms, the sketches for a 140ft tunnel underneath the vast granite walls.

Pat Reid, author of *The Colditz Story*, documents 176 escape attempts, 31 of which were successful. Lieutenant Airey Neave — later to be killed by an Irish terrorist bomb — managed after a theatre performance to march past the guards in a homemade Wehrmacht uniform. Others abseiled out of the kitchen window or escaped from the infirmary.

Apart from a few enthusiasts, such as AnneKathrin Gordas, 30, the museum director, the Germans have shown little interest in the wartime history of the castle. This is partly because the British adventure stories project the German guards as particularly numbskulled.

As a result, there have been no German millionaires rushing to invest in the castle. The signs of decay are everywhere and it was certainly better lit (there were strong searchlights despite the blackout) and more lively during the war. "There is no shortage of ideas for the castle, but there is simply no money to realise them," says Manfred Heinz, the Mayor of Colditz.

More than £30 million would be needed to turn the castle into a going concern, to convert parts of it into a hotel and to restore the roof. Will the weekend events be the breakthrough? Terry Charman and James Taylor, from the Imperial War Museum, are due to lead a discussion, a former prisoner's paintings of castle life will be on display, and members of the Royal British Legion will lay wreaths. Former German guards will also be there. However, the Colditz Association, which keeps former prisoners in touch, wants nothing to do with it all: members think that it smacks of commercialism.

The issue has diverted attention from a different dilemma — the reordering of Colditz in German history. The official version under the East German regime was that the Colditz prisoners — officers from Britain, France, Poland and Belgium — were pampered. They included Giles Romilly, Churchill's nephew, and were monitored quite closely by Swiss diplomats to ensure that the Germans were sticking to the Geneva Convention.

Below the fortress, in an armaments factory, Soviet prisoners and Hungarian Jews were treated atrociously by the SS. The contrast with the Colditz officers, their musical evenings and their escape schemes, could not be more vivid. For East Germans it was a sign that the two-class system existed even during the war. Somewhere between this old communist interpretation and the sentimental British version (heavily influenced by the film starring John Mills and Eric Portman) it may be possible to chart a realistic account.



John Mills, left, and Eric Portman in a scene from the film based on Pat Reid's *The Colditz Story*

Italian newspaper folds

BY JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

laVoce

PUBLICATION was suspended yesterday at *La Voce*, an independent conservative daily newspaper founded a year ago by Indro Montanelli, 85, the grand old man of Italian journalism.

The Milan-based newspaper, which sold about 400,000 copies a day at first, had been in financial difficulty for some time, with circulation falling to about 60,000 copies. What is almost certain to be the final edition carried a front-page headline declaring that it was *il giorno degli sciacalli* (the day of the jackals) and a photograph of the sprightly editor wearing a gag.

Signor Montanelli, in a valedictory editorial, said he would support efforts by the 50 journalists on the staff of *La Voce* (The Voice), to form a co-operative to save it. He said, however, that even if they succeeded, he was too weary to resume editing it.

"There are various explanations for our crisis: the fall in advertising revenue caused by devastating competition from TV, the rise in costs . . . and the distortion of the market caused by the big dailies with their supplements, inserts and gadgets of every type," Signor Montanelli wrote in his editorial.

He also made one last attack on Silvio Berlusconi, the former Prime Minister, and Italy's new Right. "We appealed too much to an elite, an audience which did not feel represented by this political Right," he said.

Vatican rejects execution attack

BY JOHN PHILLIPS

THE semi-official Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, yesterday rejected criticism by the Italian Left that the Pope should have intervened to try to save Nicholas Ingram from the electric chair.

The accusation of hypocrisy was made by *L'Unità*, the journal of the former communist Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), which lamented the Holy See's failure in the run-up to Easter to attempt a diplomatic mediation to save the life of the British-born murderer. The Pope's latest encyclical, published last week, condemns executions.

"The Catholic Church has, as ever, very grave responsibilities," *L'Unità* said, "and in recent days before one of the most significant feast days of the religious calendar, the voice of the Pope was not heard." The Vatican paper called the article "demagogic disinformation" and said the Church's position on executions was absolutely clear.

Balladur knocked back in polls

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

EDOUARD BALLADUR'S natural pessimism will have been bolstered yesterday by opinion polls suggesting that he is likely to be eliminated in the first round of France's presidential election.

The French Prime Minister, once an overwhelming favourite to succeed President Mitterrand, has slipped further behind his Gaullist rival, Jacques Chirac, 62, and Lionel Jospin, 57, the Socialist, according to the polls. These credit M Chirac with about 26 per cent of the vote, M Jospin with about 21 per cent and M Balladur with about 19 per cent.

For M Balladur, 65, the polls will be particularly disappointing as they follow a period of renewed optimism during which his supporters convinced themselves that victory was tangible. Shaking off his diffident, bourgeois image, he had plunged into the race with all the enthusiasm of a man who knew his political future was at stake, shaking hands and kissing babies with apparent glee.

For a time, the tactic worked and he halted the dramatic decline in his popularity that had started almost as soon as his campaign began in January.

In contrast, the mood in the Socialist camp was more relaxed yesterday as it appeared increasingly likely that M Jospin would feature in a traditional showdown between the Left and the Right in the second round.

WORLD SUMMARY

Cult 'tried out gas on followers'

Moscow: A Japanese religious sect suspected of carrying out the Tokyo subway attack last month tested an unidentified nerve gas on its Russian followers, a former cult member has told a Moscow court.

The news came as President Yeltsin yesterday asked the Federal Security Service to investigate the activities of the Aum *Shinrikyo* sect in Russia.

Marina Romandina, 19, appeared in court on Tuesday on behalf of a parents' group that is suing the Japanese sect for allegedly corrupting Russian youth. She said a nerve gas used on sect members left many suffering stomach problems, headaches, vomiting and nose-bleeds. *(AP)*

Victim of aerosol blast wins fight

Senlis, France: The head of Reckitt and Coleman's French operations was given a 12-month suspended jail sentence, here yesterday over a case in which a man had most of his face and hands blown off in an aerosol explosion. Lukas Beyeler, 60, was also ordered to pay 2 million francs (about £260,000) compensation. Lawyers for Beyeler said an appeal would be made. *(AFP)*

Nabokov home burnt down

St Petersburg: The former country house of Vladimir Nabokov, the author of *Lolita*, has been destroyed by fire. He spent little time in the house, which he inherited in 1916, before fleeing the Bolshevik Revolution for the United States in 1918. Police said they could not rule out an arson attack on the building, which became a state-run museum in 1987. *(Reuter)*

Economy gives Mahathir boost

Kuala Lumpur: Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, warned his ruling coalition yesterday against complacency in the national election on April 24 and 25. The economy has been growing at 8 per cent for seven years and the main opposition Democratic Action Party concedes it is all but impossible to beat the coalition. *(Reuter)*

Tight squeeze

Brooklyn Heights, Ohio: A man arrested for speeding and other motoring offences was changing into prison uniform when his pet boa popped out of his boxer shorts. He told police he was trying to keep the snake warm, and was later released on bail. *(AP)*



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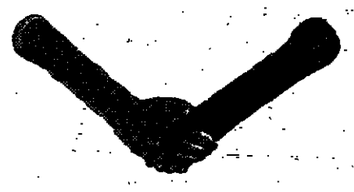
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هتو امن الاصل

Kigali gives warning of environmental disaster as Tutsi exiles return with million-strong herd

Cattle trek threatens Rwandan game park

FROM SAM KILEY IN AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK

AN INFLUX of more than a million cattle herded by Rwanda's Tutsi refugees returning home after 36 years in exile threatens to overwhelm the country's largest national park, causing an ecological disaster and a huge collapse of the cattle population within three months.

Only 23,000 Tutsis who fled Rwanda's Hutu revolution against the monarchy in 1959, or their descendants, have been registered as returning to their homeland. But they have driven huge herds of long-horned Ashanti cattle ahead of them. The Rwandan Government is publicly committed to trying to save Akagera National Park, in the north of the country, from overgrazing.

But privately, officials say its demise to grazing is inevitable because Rwanda, until last year's genocide of Tutsis, was Africa's most densely populated country. "We have too many people, and not enough land. There is no way that we can sustain having a seventh of our land area as national park while people have nowhere to live and farm," said a Kigali official. Lillian Wong, the head of Britain's mission to Rwanda, said: "This is a major emergency."

It is estimated that Rwanda's birth rate will lead to the human population doubling every 19 years. Many analysts believe that a root cause of last year's mass bloodletting was the struggled for control of ever-dwindling land resources. The Akagera, a vast park of rolling grassland and acacia bush, is the country's last preserve of zebra, lion, and plains game. Rwanda will one day have to find room for 2.2 million Hutus who fled last year. Much of their land has already been occupied by returning Tutsis from Burundi, Zaire, and Uganda.

The returning Tutsis, organised to return to boost the tribe's population after it was reduced from 1.1 million to around 80,000 last year, are aware of the ecological impact of their herds, but can see little reason to protect the park.

The Government is now struggling with how to set about a mass reduction of cattle among its most loyal constituents. Tutsis living in exile in Rwanda formed the backbone of the Rwandan Patriotic Front which took power last year, supplied most of its soldiers, and much of its funding. One answer is the mass slaughter of cattle.

But Tutsis rarely eat beef and are vehemently against ridding themselves of their traditional store of wealth, especially if the meat ends up in the bellies of Hutus living in refugee camps outside Rwanda, many of whom participated in the genocide of their families. The Government has set aside small tracts of land for the resettlement of returning Tutsis and insists they bring back no more than 15 cattle per plot. But it also faces the need to reduce the cattle population, now standing at 750,000 and soon to reach 1.1 million, by 60 per cent. Even with the park, there is only enough grazing in the area for about 200,000 head. So many cattle have been moved from Uganda to Rwanda that beef prices in Kampala, the Ugandan capital, have doubled. In July the rains will stop, and the grass will be gone. "They will have to kill the cows, return to Uganda, or the cattle will die in July anyway," said Sean Obrey, the operations manager for the American Refugee Committee.

PAUL LOWE/MAGNUM



Tutsi refugees share Akagera Park's water supply with their long-horned cattle. But when the rains stop, many of the animals will face death

Grenade attack kills 28 refugees

Nairobi: Raiders armed with rifles and grenades killed 28 people on an island in Lake Kivu and at a Rwandan refugee camp near by in Zaire, a United Nations agency reported yesterday.

Fifty-four people were wounded, 16 seriously. Many were women and children housed in the camp on the western shore of the lake, which separates Rwanda and Zaire. The area has been the scene of numerous cross-border attacks, but UN officials said they were not sure if the attacks were conducted by Rwandan Tutsis in retaliation for raids into Rwanda by extremist Hutus, many of whom are housed in Zairean refugee camps.

There is a great deal of anger and resentment within Rwanda over what Tutsi survivors of last year's genocide see as favoured treatment of Rwandan Hutu refugees. The new Tutsi-led Government in Rwanda has halted UN food shipments to a million Rwandan refugees in dozens of camps near Bukavu and Goma, Zaire.

Thousands of Rwandans demonstrated on Tuesday outside the headquarters of the UN mission in Kigali, demanding that it leave the country. *(AP)*

Mandela drama turns into farce

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

THE Winnie Mandela affair yesterday descended from the level of a domestic soap opera to a political farce. President Mandela, after long hours of tense telephone communication from Abu Dhabi, where he is on a trade and confidence-boosting tour of Gulf states, decided to reinstate his estranged wife in her post as Deputy Minister for Arts, Culture, Science and Technology.

It seems likely, however, that Mrs Mandela will not be long in the job: Brigitte Mabandla, the African National Congress activist who was appointed to succeed her, has been asked to step down "for a few hours".

A statement from Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President, said Mrs Mandela had been informed of the decision and said Mr Mandela would reconsider his wife's position on his return from the Gulf today. The appointment of Mrs Mabandla had been reversed.

The bizarre reinstatement of Mrs Mandela follows the President's consultation with his lawyer, Nicholas Haysom, and Mr Mbeki. They were faced with having to reply to Mrs Mandela's lawsuit demanding her reinstatement by today, with a day in court set for April 25.

Mrs Mandela claimed that her sacking was unlawful and unconstitutional. Although the constitution gives the President a free hand to sack ministers or deputy ministers in the interests of good governance, it stipulates that he must do it after consultation with other party leaders participating in the Government of National Unity.

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Home Minister and leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party, swore an affidavit in support of Mrs Mandela, saying he was not consulted.

MPs urge Rabin to confront Hamas

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AS ISRAEL'S 120-seat Knesset was recalled yesterday to debate the deteriorating security situation, six deputies from the ruling Labour Party joined the right-wing opposition to demand that troops be sent to autonomous Gaza to attack Islamic militants.

The backbench revolt reflected growing anxiety over the wave of deadly suicide attacks organised by Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, and Islamic Jihad.

The call for Israeli action was directed at Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister. It was made despite the crackdown ordered by Yassir Arafat, the head of the Palestinian Authority and the PLO, which has resulted in the arrest of 300 Gaza extremists and raised the spectre of civil war in Gaza.

"The security situation in Gaza is intolerable. We cannot rely on the Palestinian Authority anymore," said Eli Dayan, a Labour rebel.

The emergency session was prompted by Sunday's suicide attacks in the Gaza Strip in which eight people died. The fanaticism that Israel faces was illustrated in a Gaza court where it was disclosed that suicide bombers aged from 14 to 19 had been buried alive to test their courage.



Rabin: under pressure from Labour rebels

Rifkind offers help on Pretoria defence cuts

BY MICHAEL HAMLYN

BRITAIN is to offer South Africa further help in streamlining its defence forces, according to Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, who left here yesterday after a 60-hour tour of the country en route to Zimbabwe.

Mr Rifkind, speaking at the University of the Witwatersrand, said that he hoped British advisers helping the new military force, arising from the integration of the South African Defence Force, the armed wings of the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress, and the armed forces of the homelands, would find a new role at the end of the process.

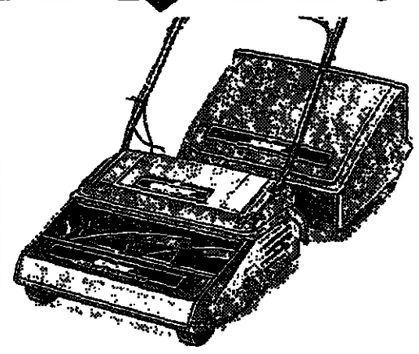
While Mr Rifkind made it clear that it would be up to the South African Government to seek further help, he also pointed out that the next stage would be streamlining the new forces. "We have a lot of experience in this," he said. "We have seen our armed forces decrease by 70,000 to 80,000 troops. We have been able to help those who leave by training and with finance, so that 80 per cent of those who left obtained regular employment."

Mr Rifkind spoke of the close relationship emerging between the two countries' defence forces and their defence manufacturing industries, where there are 13 joint ventures are under way.

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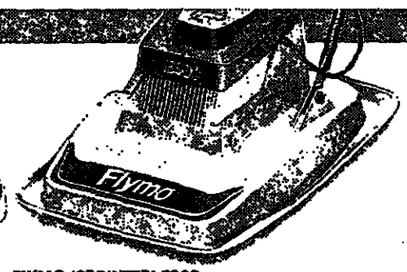


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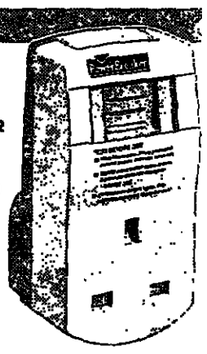


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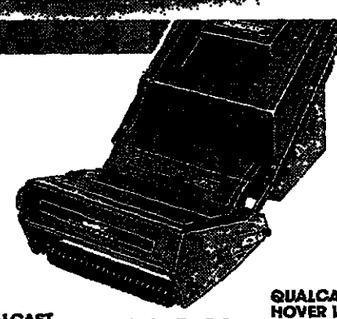
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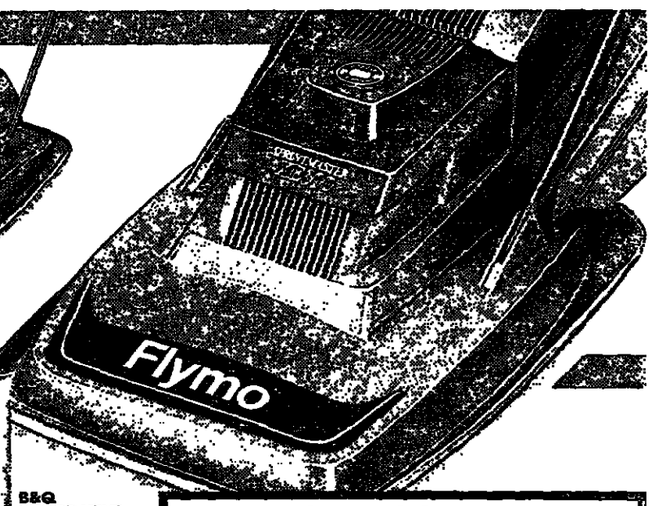
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☐ Unexplained anaemia and gastric disease ☐ The after-effects of an operation ☐ The connection between schizophrenia and diabetes

Adding up the clues



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

WHEN a patient is excessively tired, breathless, easily overcome by weariness and perhaps suffering from chest pains on exertion they need no encouragement to have their anaemia investigated. Other symptoms of an iron deficiency anaemia, apart from the pallor which can be misleading, include a shiny red tongue, sores around the mouth and changes in the nails, which are sometimes concave and spoon-shaped.

If there is obvious blood loss, such as heavy menstruation, or if the diet is demonstrably deficient in iron, the patient's co-operation is assured. Difficulties arise when the patient is feeling well and enjoys a well-balanced diet but a blood test has confirmed that they have a mild iron deficiency anaemia. These patients may not be so enthusiastic about having the additional tests, including endoscopic examinations, which their condition warrants.

If the anaemia has no apparent cause, the first place to look for one is in the gastro-intestinal tract.

Pulse magazine reports that at the recent British Society of Gastroenterology Spring meeting there was agreement that it was important, often vital, that doctors should consider that unexplained anaemia had its origins in disease of the gastro-intestinal tract until it was proved otherwise. Research from Nottingham City Hospital showed that in 105 anaemic patients investigated, 59 per cent had a gastro-intestinal cause. Several of these cases had a previously undiagnosed malignancy. Dr Anthony Stellon, a general practitioner in Dover, investigated 26 anaemic patients over the age of 50; 30 per cent had gastro-intestinal disease. The cause can be at any point in the length of the gastro-intestinal tract; investigations may have to be conducted from either, or both, ends of it.

A recent working party with members from the Royal Colleges of Physicians, Surgeons and Anaesthetists the British Society of Gastroenterologists, and which also included general practitioners, agreed guidelines on what would be appropriate reasons for doctors to ask for endoscopic examinations of the upper gastro-intestinal tract, oesophagus, stomach and duodenum, for their patients. Their conclusions have been published in the *British Medical Journal* and among the 15 indications warranting further examination are unexplained iron deficiency anaemia, unexplained weight loss or vomiting. Gastro-intestinal bleeding, any difficulty in swallowing, severe or moderate long-standing upper abdominal pain or heartburn, and suspected or established gastric ulceration are other indications on the list.

The committee also dealt with the problem of when to refer a patient with indigestion to a consultant so that they might have an endoscopic examination. Any patient over 45 who has recently developed dyspepsia, or whose symptoms have changed, needs endoscopic examination as soon as possible. Young patients should also be referred if they are known to be infected with *Helicobacter pylori* or have other risk factors. Patients with dyspepsia which fails to respond to treatment, or if long treatment with the new anti-indigestion drugs is intended, also need endoscopic investigation.

After surgery



SHORT-TERM problems after surgery are anticipated, and relatives accept that some patients, particularly those who are older or who have other medical conditions, might be confused post-operatively, especially at night.

In most cases morale, intelligence and memory have apparently returned to normal within a few days. In some cases the trouble is more persistent and the patient is still suffering when he or she returns home. Dr Rachel Vicars and Dr Christopher Hanning, two specialists in anaesthesia, have recently analysed the causes of post-operative memory loss in *The Practitioner*'s column, "Everyday Problems".

They estimate that 15 per cent of patients have some long-term problems. The most common symptoms of post-operative change are extreme tiredness and lethargy, inability to concentrate and some loss of memory. In other cases, memory loss or reduction in mental aptitude were the most obvious features.

Certain operations are more likely to be troublesome than others, and age and pre-existing poor health can predispose patients to post-operative problems. Those already taking some drugs are more apt to be confused post-operatively if they are suddenly withdrawn. Alcohol is among these drugs and patients should, if there is time, gradually reduce their intake before surgery.

Missing link



THERE seems to be little in common between schizophrenia and diabetes, yet research workers in Britain and the United States have discovered separately a remarkable link between them.

The magazine *General Practitioner* reports that in one American survey, more than half of the patients over 70 who were attending psychiatric clinics with schizophrenia also had non-insulin dependent diabetes. The same phenomena has also been observed elsewhere in America.

Geneticists at the Institute of Psychiatry in London have established a similar link. They looked into the family medical history of 121 schizophrenic patients and contrasted them with 115 controls similar in all ways — other than in not having that illness. Very close relatives of patients with schizophrenia were ten times more likely to have insulin-dependent diabetes.

There is no evidence as to the nature of the link between diabetes and schizophrenia. However, research workers from the University of Nottingham and the Royal United Hospital in Bath have recently offered a possible explanation of why diabetic mothers are four times more likely to have a baby with a congenital abnormality. Research has shown an association in embryos between high blood sugar levels, foliate deficiency and foetal abnormalities. All women hoping to become pregnant should take additional folic acid. This may be particularly important if they are diabetic.

JOHN REARDON/KATZ

Can life really drive you mad?

Most people believe that stress is the cause of mental illness, but a test case failed in court yesterday. Dr Simon Wessely explains why.



Sandhurst cadets: joining the Army, especially an elite regiment, is a source of stress, and new recruits have an increased rate of schizophrenia

Britain's elite regiments have not had a good press recently, as newspapers have devoted attention to the alcoholic rampages of off-duty soldiers. Some of the most damaging stories surfaced during a bitterly contested hearing in the High Court in January of this year. Mr Justice Popplewell delivered his judgment yesterday.

This was the case brought by Alastair Green, a young officer formerly of the 7th Royal Horse Artillery (an elite airborne regiment), against his brother officers and the Ministry of Defence. Mr Green told the court he had been subject to a systematic campaign of bullying while a junior officer in the regiment ten years ago. He described various humiliations, such as being tied naked to a cannon outside the officer's mess, all reported in lurid detail.

The officers concerned accepted that on occasions, drinking large amounts of alcohol and then behaving in ways which the rest of us, except those in rugby clubs, might regard as silly was part and parcel of mess life, but they vehemently denied bullying or humiliation.

But Mr Green claimed something more than simply being the victim of unwelcome bullying. He claimed that his experiences in the regiment had, in the vernacular, driven him mad. There was no dispute that Mr Green's Army career was ended when he suffered a psychotic breakdown, and that he continued to have further breakdowns after leaving the Army. In court, his account of the horror of mental illness was particularly moving.

The questions facing Mr Justice Popplewell were straightforward. First, did the events happen as Mr Green described? Second, if they occurred, could they cause psychosis? This question sounded straightforward, but providing an answer proved very difficult for the many psychiatrists, including myself, who gave evidence.

Many people may wonder why the psychiatrists were unable to agree on this simple question. It seems obvious that stress can cause mental illness. Those who have experienced intolerable stress, such as soldiers in combat, or the survivors of disasters, frequently develop disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety or depression, which are psychologically understandable reactions to trauma. However, they do not commonly develop psychosis. There was nothing understandable about Mr Green's illness, or the terrifying delusions to which he was subject.

Just as those who endure severe stress do not inevitably, or even frequently, develop psychosis, most psychotic illnesses are not preceded by severe stress either. Thus stress is neither a necessary nor a sufficient cause of psychosis. All the psychiatrists agreed that the cause of psychosis remains unknown, although genetics certainly play a substantial role.

So even if the bullying had occurred, it did not cause the young officer's illness — but did it trigger or precipitate it? It was argued that Mr Green may have been going to get ill at some time, but without his experiences he could have expected several more productive years.

Most studies have found that people who develop schizophrenia are more likely to recall a significant life event in the weeks or months before their illness when compared to those who have not developed the illness. No psychiatrist would ever neglect meticulous examination of a person's background and recent history for clues about their illness. But simply asking people to recall recent significant events can be misleading. Before it was known that Down's syndrome was due to a chromosome abnormality, many doctors believed that stress in pregnancy played a role, and studies were published showing that pregnancies that led to a Down's birth were, indeed, more stressful than normal pregnancies. We now know this was an example of mothers trying desperately to find a reason why they had delivered a handicapped baby.

Researchers into the relationship between stress and psychosis are aware of this problem. Mr Justice Popplewell was thus advised to pay attention to those studies that used reliable methods, such as the lengthy interviews developed by Professor George Brown and Dr Tirril Harris of Bedford College, London, and ignore the rest.

The best studies confirm that there is an increased risk of stressful life events in the weeks before the onset of schizophrenia. However, some of these events are rather common, such as illness of a family member, a minor violation of the law, losing a pet, or even going on holiday — the kind of thing that happens to everyone several times a year. So researchers have concluded that if life events trigger schizophrenia, it is only by a few weeks. If one particular event could be prevented, another one would be along shortly anyway.

> Doctors believed that stress had a role in Down's syndrome

The best studies of manic depression have been contradictory — two found an effect of life events, two did not. Furthermore, nearly all the episodes studied were relapses of the illness, and not the first episode.

But joining the Army, especially an elite regiment, is itself a source of stress. One study has shown that new recruits have an increased rate of schizophrenia, whether bullied or not.

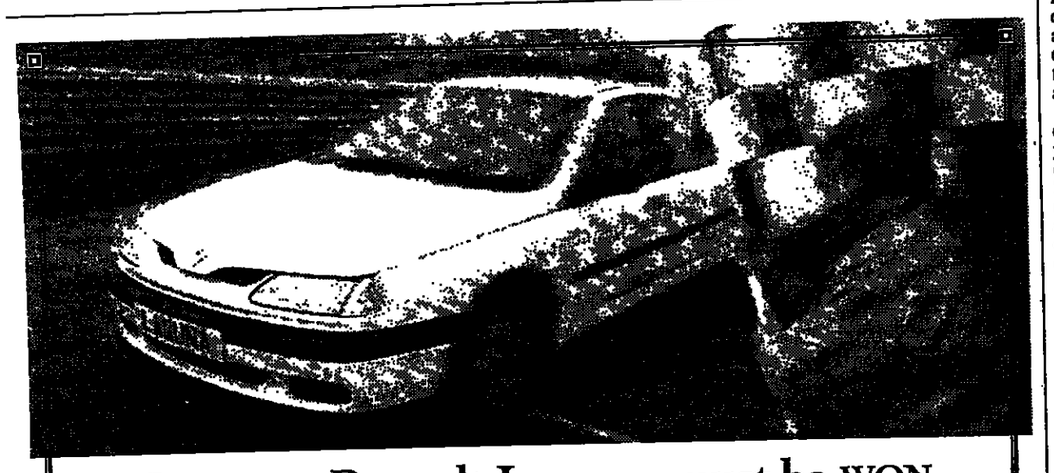
So after all the psychiatric arguments, Mr Justice Popplewell might well have felt perplexed. He heard an experienced clinician, Mr Green's own psychiatrist, argue with conviction from clinical practice that life events did trigger manic depression. He also heard academic arguments that clinical experience sometimes misleads, and that the research literature was not proven.

It was an important case, and not just for the young man concerned. Manic depression is not uncommon. If life events were the cause of the illness, other sufferers might resort to litigation.

The judge decided that the officer was not bullied and he exonerated all bar one of the officers. Strictly speaking, there was thus no need for the judge to answer the wider question of whether stress causes manic depression, but, given its importance, he did so anyway. He was not persuaded that stress caused the onset of manic depression, although he agreed it might be implicated in relapse.

We still do not know what causes devastating disorders such as manic depression and schizophrenia. The person who finds out will undoubtedly get a Nobel prize.

● *Dr Simon Wessely is Senior Lecturer in Psychological Medicine at King's College School of Medicine.*



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Take care of your stiff neck

Dr Kieran Sweeney on the possible complications of manipulation

People with stiff necks or bad backs often turn to chiropractors or osteopaths because conventional medical treatment for these conditions is limited. Painkillers may have side-effects, and physiotherapy is still not universally available in general practice.

It may well be wrong, however, to assume that alternative remedies are harmless. A recent report by Professor Edward Ernst, of the Centre for Complementary Medicine at the University of Exeter, published in the *International Journal of Risk and Safety in Medicine*, is a wide-ranging review of the world literature on osteopathic and chiropractic manipulation of the neck. He says that although reports of serious complications are rare, there is no systematic method of collecting statistics on the overall number of problems, and many probably go unreported.

The most serious accidents after manipulation are vascular. These include dissection of the arteries in the neck, vascular spasm and temporary interruption of the blood-flow to the brain. Professor Ernst emphasises that such accidents are rare, probably between one and four per million of treatments, but a third of patients who suffer them have severe long-term damage through paralysis or stroke.

While the number of vascular complications can be only guessed at, the rate of other complications — for example of fractures, slipped discs or dislocation — is totally unknown. Fractures after neck manipulation are extremely rare, but they are most likely to occur in patients who have osteoporosis. These are the very patients who may seek alternative therapy because of the pain their condition can produce.

Most chiropractors and osteopaths X-ray patients who complain of stiff necks, but the demineralisation of the bone would have to be very advanced before it would show up on a normal X-ray. Obviously, the therapists cannot be expected to assess the structure of vertebral arteries, which requires complex, risky and expensive radiological imaging.

Finally, there are the minor complaints, such as headache and neck pain, which Professor Ernst feels should be included under complications. One study in 1991 cited 25 such complications in a series of 75,500 neck manipulations.

Graham Mason, a member of the Council of the British Society of Osteopaths, acknowledges that there is little research evidence to prove the safety of neck manipulation. He points out, however, that the continuing low costs of professional indemnity for osteopaths is a strong indirect indicator of the safety of these techniques.

The vigorous manipulations of the neck which are most often the cause of rare, serious complications form a very small part of the osteopath's repertoire. Gentle stretching and relaxation techniques are much more common, he said.

At Exeter, Professor Ernst is setting about the scientific assessment of complementary health treatments using randomised controlled trials. He believes that unless researchers in complementary health adhere to such scientific standards, and publish well-organised studies, they will remain on the periphery of medicine.

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Why politicians make bad friends

Who'd be Blair's chum?

The death of a friendship is a bleak, confidence-sapping business. Bad enough if it should happen abruptly, after a row, or the revelation that one partner is having an affair with the other's spouse: far worse if it should creep up coldly and by stealth.

Phone calls go unreturned, dinner invitations unanswered (they must be on holiday). Finally, the grapevine delivers the intelligence that the person you are still describing as "one of my closest friends" had a riotously good party with his or her closest friends, who no longer included you.

Ken Follett, who this week quit his *ex officio* job as Labour Party fundraiser after a steady cooling in his relations with Tony Blair, was described in a saccharine statement from the leader's office as "a valuable friend of the Labour Party". But he must be brimming with that blend of anger and hurt which accompanies the recognition that the amity has been one-way.



ANNE McELVOY

The millionaire novelist, who hosted £500-a-head fundraising dinners at his Chelsea home for the cash-strapped socialist cause, is the latest of London's cultural elite to be ditched from Blair's circle.

"After all we've done for them" would be a perfectly reasonable response in the circumstances. Follett was to Labour what Lord Archer was to the Tories — but all the more valuable for being one of the handful of very rich men openly to declare their support for Labour, and subsequently to tolerate with good humour the epithet "champagne socialist". Moreover, Follett's wife Barbara is responsible for having groomed Labour politicians into a semblance of sartorial acceptability.

But there is always one who kisses and one who turns the cheek, and Blair is unlikely to have many sleepless nights over the loss of Follett. For a start, this was a legacy from the days of Neil Kinnock, and hand-me-down friendships tend to end in a clash or — still worse — indifference, and prove an embarrassment to all concerned.

Politicians' friendships are always hostage to their jobs. Even if both sides pursue the relationship with no hint of self-interest, the very fact of their association, once public, opens it to semiotic study by outsiders, which in turn undermines the spontaneity of the alliance.

Judging people by their friends might be cruel, but it is also enlightening. Lord Wilson's fondness for Marcia Falkender and Lord Kagan was indicative of the disingenuousness which characterised his leadership. Fidel Castro often refers to his rapport with Gabriel Garcia Márquez, as if to prove that his authoritarian regime cannot be that bad if Latin America's foremost writer enjoys his company. It comes as no surprise that Bill Clinton and Barbra Streisand should find common ground in their emotionally charged liberalism.

Alternatively, politicians may seek out friends unlike themselves in order to prove that they are not the monomaniacs we think they are. Mikhail Gorbachev, keen to show that glasnost began at home, invited banned writers like Viktor Yerofeyev to dine with him. "Whereupon," Yerofeyev recalls, "it became agonisingly apparent that this man had not read any non-political books for about 20 years."

The intersection of friendship and fundraising is a muddy one, best avoided by all but the very brash. One of the reasons why Follett feels so badly used by Labour is that he demeaned his personal links by turning them into commercial ones for the party's sake. "There are days," he once admitted, "when I just don't feel like phoning up Stephen Fry and asking him for a grand."

The amount of money involved is immaterial. The whiff of compulsion is what counts, whether you are being sold a £1 raffle ticket or being asked to fork out £500 for a gala dinner.

Dispensing with one friend often coincides with taking up another, and it comes as no surprise that the exit of Follett from Labour's inner circle has been accompanied by a sudden flowering of relations between Blair and the Thatcherite columnist, Paul Johnson. "Friends", as the parodist Hugh Kingsmill wrote, "are God's apology for relations." Thankfully, even politicians cannot change those.

The real vicar of Dibley

Joanna Pitman meets the reluctant pioneer who inspired Dawn French's fun-seeking television priest

MICHAEL POWELL



Joy Carroll swapped her British Caledonian uniform for jewel-coloured shirts and a dog collar to dispense nun jokes and advice in an inner-city parish

Whether Joy Carroll likes it or not — and it seems she doesn't mind one way or another — she has become one of the brightest stars in the female firmament of the Church of England.

A former primary school teacher and British Caledonian air hostess, she became a deacon in 1988, was elected to the General Synod in 1990 and then, spotted by the writer Richard Curtis, agreed to become the model for Dawn French's character in the television series *The Vicar of Dibley*. Ordained a priest last May, she is now the subject of an *Everyman* documentary to be shown on Easter Sunday which explores her role in the parish of Immanuel and St Andrew in Streatham, south London.

A finely balanced combination of brains, enthusiasm and quiet confidence, the 35-year-old vicar of Streatham has walked into her new role with consummate ease. Ten years ago she was to be found trussed up in the immaculate tartan suit and boater of the British Caledonian crew, looking after lost souls at Gatwick airport. Now she cuts a dash in dangling earrings, her dog collar set off by a magnificent range of jewel-coloured shirts, as she brings the Church closer to the inner city and delivers the troubled members of her Streatham flock from their sorrows and anxieties.

The gritty business of counselling the under-privileged has become a central part of her job in this typical heartland of deprivation, a far cry from the genteel tea parties and fêtes of leafy Dibley. Ms Carroll has set up a day centre outside her church where anyone can come to talk, drink tea and chuckle at her nun jokes. "There are too many prudes in the Church already," she says. "I like to have a good laugh and it brings people together."

But sympathising over the problems of jobs and housing and the failure of the Government's Care in the Community programme has become the baking soda of her relationship with her parishioners, the ingredient that makes them bubble and rise.

"I think the role of counselling is very important for a priest. It's a privilege to be alongside people who are vulnerable and to be able to help them by extending the listening ear of God. There's a strong need in people to feel they are accepted and listened to unconditionally and objectively."

With her virtuous air of a person about the common good, Ms Carroll is ecumenical in her appeal and has won unconditional acceptance in her parish. "I've been lucky in finding no opposition at all to being ordained a woman priest, but I know plenty of others in other parishes who have. Having women working at higher levels brings a wholeness to the Church, a relevance to our day-to-day life experiences outside. An all-male priesthood would miss out a whole chunk of human experience."

> 'An all-male priesthood would miss out a chunk of human experience'

"Now that I am able to give the blessing, to say the prayer of thanksgiving at Communion and to do absolution has finally made liturgical sense of all the counselling and involvement in people's lives that I was doing."

Ms Carroll has never been a militant placards-and-slogans campaigner for the advancement of women in the Church, preferring instead to put her case calmly, through persuasive discussion one to one — usually in the tearoom at the General Synod. "The first time I walked in there I was absolutely terrified at the sight of all those older and wiser men. The Church is still very much a male arena, but things are changing and I no longer feel intimidated by clergy or bishops."

There is no reason why Ms Carroll should ever have felt intimidated, as she was brought up in a vicarage by a father whose missionary fervour had the whole family helping people in inner-city areas. "I'm very grateful for his legacy. He has retired now but he introduced us to the inner city, sent us to local schools and taught us the value of spiritual help in deprived areas. And with members of the clergy around when I was a child, I grew up knowing that they are normal people."

Ms Carroll could scarcely be further from the stereotypical image of the fusty and pallid old hermit-priest, yet she still has to do battle with the preconceptions of people unfamiliar with the Church who imagine that she goes nowhere without her cassock. "When I go out or on holiday, I find that when people discover I'm a priest they turn away because they think priests are no fun." From her father Ms Carroll has inherited an ability to switch off and leave her work behind when she unbuttons her dog collar. Manifestly capable of having untrammelled fun, she inspired a scene in the TV programme showing a bring-a-bottle party. Dozens of swaying bodies meet on the dance floor and, under cover of semi-darkness and UB40, lips settle in for an uninterrupted feast.

> 'To separate sex from spirituality and not talk about it is simply bizarre'

Nothing fusty about that. Nor about her work to address the issue of sexuality and the Church. Ms Carroll has been instrumental in setting up a human sexuality working party in her diocese. "It's designed to encourage gentle and calm discussion of the sexuality of homosexuals, single heterosexuals and married ministers of the Church. To separate sex from spirituality and not talk about it, when sex is part of all our normal lives and central to the way we relate to each other, is simply bizarre."

Ms Carroll joined the Church at a time when there were few women role models to follow. While she claims to be neither role model nor pioneer herself, she is clearly either mistaken or simply too modest. She is the modern face of the egalitarian Church and Streatham could hope for no better.

Does she want to get married, I ask. "Yes, but a partner for me," she says, "not for the Church."



ANNIE LEIBOVITZ AT CAMP OJ

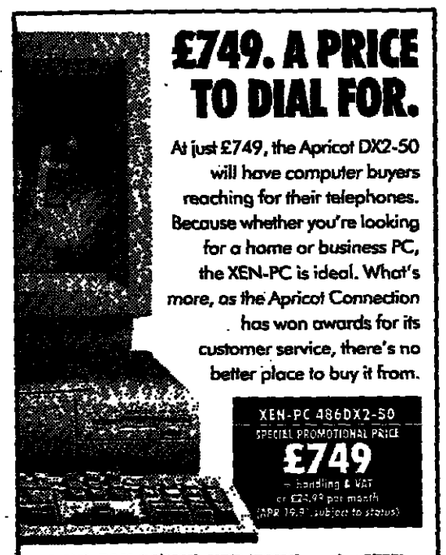
Paula Barbieri, a former *Playboy* centrefold, regularly visits OJ Simpson in jail. In The Magazine this Sunday, Annie Leibovitz photographs the participants inside and outside the courtroom while Russell Miller reports on the search for truth at the trial of the century

PLUS: Fay Weldon on being a widow, a bride and giving birth to a new novel – all in one year



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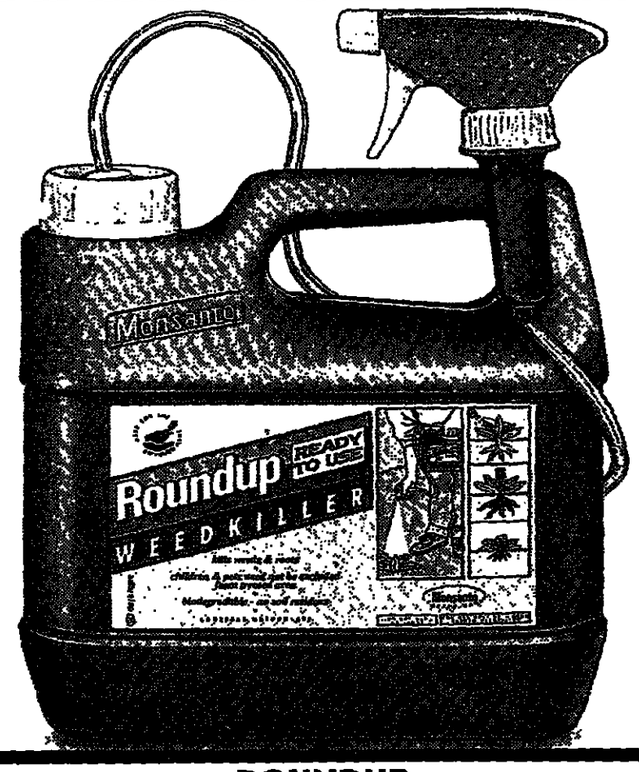
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JAGUAR OWNERS

Janet Daley



■ Labour now accepts the purpose of teaching, but what does it mean by "bad" teachers?

What are schools for? A year ago, the answer was still in some doubt. The teaching unions were locked in confrontation with the Government over testing and league tables — reforms which threatened to make schools publicly accountable as they had not been since the abolition of the 11-plus. Such exposure would, as the unions knew, bring about the collapse of the entire edifice of educational ideology. It would reinstate measurable achievement as the chief purpose of schooling.

Thus the question with which I began would be clearly answered: schools are for transmitting knowledge. To the extent that they succeed in this, they are good schools; to the extent that they fail, they are bad. That this should be a matter for debate, let alone mass industrial action, was a measure of how remote education had become from the expectations of most people. What the classroom industrial wars did, apart from disrupt the education of thousands of pupils, was to reveal the perverse absurdity of what a whole generation of teachers had been taught to believe.

> At last we all agree that schools are for teaching

As I write, the Association of Teachers and Lecturers has voted to ballot its members on industrial action on an issue which it expects will win popular approval. It will recommend that members refuse to teach classes of more than 31 children for more than two days. Restricting class size is union code for protecting teaching jobs. But parents have been persuaded that the number of children in a classroom is crucial to pupils' performance. Many parents are too young to remember that in the baby-boom years just after the war, primary school classes were usually over 40. The academic progress made by state-school children in that period puts recent generations to shame.

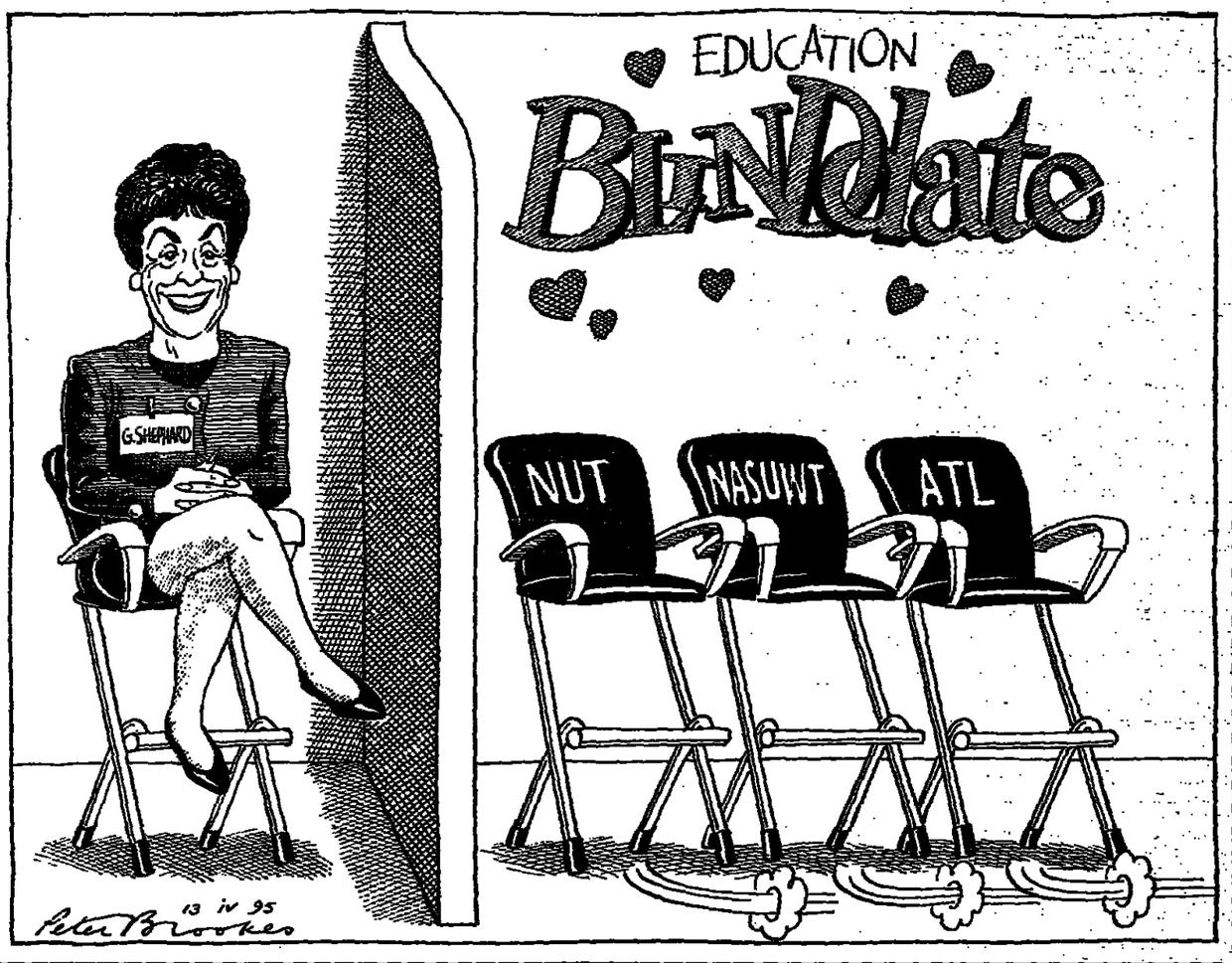
In those days, working-class children, born of parents who had survived the desperate poverty of the 1930s, emerged from bombed-out slums to attend schools which would now be considered hopelessly over-crowded and "under-resourced". Taught by teachers who unashamedly propagated "bourgeois values" — a belief in learning and self-improvement — and having the incentive of the 11-plus, they went on to levels of achievement which have never been equalled. The numbers of students from working-class backgrounds entering university is now lower than when schooling was under the "tyranny" of huge classes and selection.

Large classes are an insurmountable problem if teachers insist on supervising individual children while they re-invent the wheel. A teacher addressing a whole class can teach 40 pupils as readily as 30 — as long as he is free to be "instructional" and the school ethos supports strict discipline. Many over-subscribed private primary schools must now contend with larger classes than their better-equipped state equivalents, which does not deter the queue of middle-class parents at their doors. Labour's public recantation on education has acknowledged that working-class children were sold down the river by progressive teaching. But can it also accept that the solution to this tragedy — the disinheriting of a generation — does not lie in the inevitable union demand for more resources?

It may be difficult to recall now, but in the dark days of 1994, Labour had not come out of the closet on schools. Belief in traditional aims and teaching methods was still a shameful fetish, indulged in the privacy of North London dinner parties among those who had discovered what was actually going on. Schooling had become a form of personal development therapy rather than a means of handing on knowledge. Teachers had been persuaded that their function was to facilitate children in an amorphous, structureless "journey of discovery", rather than to pass on the accumulated enlightenment that was the birthright of earlier generations. They had abdicated their responsibility to act as authoritative adults able to provide uninformed children with the critical judgment they need to participate in their own culture.

Forget middle England: it is the inner cities that were in need of Labour's volte face. But what is really being offered? Apart from withdrawing its threat to dismantle all the Conservative reforms, there is little more than bloodcurdling rhetoric about sacking "bad" teachers and dismembering "failing" schools. If "bad" teachers are all those brainwashed by progressive ideology, where will Labour find the legions of "good" teachers to replace them?

Parents' views are to be the be-all and end-all of Labour education policy, but there is a whole swathe of parents — themselves educated in the 1960s and '70s — who will not support a school's right to impose discipline. Will Labour replace them too? Education, and the liberation it can bring, has been subverted from the inside. Before they can be of any use, politicians must be prepared to admit the whole truth.



Pro Anna and Jonathan

It is up to *The Guardian* to prove its charges against Mr Aitken; but Mr Spring's case is more sinister

William Rees-Mogg

Except for Prince Mohammed bin Fahd, I've known most of the main actors in the Jonathan Aitken case, many of them for 30 years or so. As a result, I am lumbered with all sorts of personal prejudices which make it difficult to do justice to all, or indeed to any, of the people concerned.

My starting point is Anna Ford. Roughly speaking, my attitude towards her is the one that Edmund Burke thought that the people of France ought to adopt towards Marie Antoinette. "I thought ten thousand swords must have leapt from their scabards to avenge even a look that threatened her with insult."

It will be remembered that Anna Ford threw a glass of white burgundy, perhaps a nicely chilled chablis from Berry Bros, over Jonathan Aitken at one of Lady Melchett's celebrated soirées in Chelsea. She did so as a protest against the way in which Jonathan had contrived to take over TV-am, which had been established by Peter Jay and a group of media stars, including Anna Ford herself and David Frost.

I've always been quite content to regard this as a conflict between Aitken as a sinister but minor merchant banker, and a group of brilliant and entertaining media stars. In that drama, they were the three little pigs and he was the big bad wolf. He huffed and he puffed and he blew their house down; perhaps it had always been built of straw. So far as I can remember the story, he himself had subsequently to be rescued by the cartoon character Roland Rat. Mr Rat, like Prince Mohammed — or indeed, a new character, a *Guardian* journalist called Pallister, who has wandered into the plot out of a Trollope novel — I have yet to meet.

So, in round one, I am pro-Anna and anti-Jonathan. But then I remember earlier connections. I knew his father, and liked him. By the time I met him he had become a rather old-fashioned type of county Member of Parliament. He had a faint — but quite misleading — whiff of brimstone which came from being a nephew of Lord Beaverbrook. In the Carlton Club of those days it used to be said that Lord Beaverbrook had a hairy heel, and I dare say that one could see the demonic tufts sticking through his silk socks. I also know Jonathan's mother, whom everyone likes.

Jonathan was also, when still quite a boy in the 1960s, one of those who felt that Biafra deserved her independence and that the British Government's support for the military regime in Nigeria was an act of cynical opportunism, motivated by the influence of the oil companies. We were all suspected of supporting the Ibos because they were Roman Catholics — so great was my ignorance at the time that I did not know whether they were Animist or Presbyterians when I first espoused their cause. I remember with affection those who were on what I still think to be the right side — who could not accept the deliberate genocide of a black tribe. Jonathan was one. Winston Churchill was another; Auberon Waugh was pro-Ibo, and actually called one of his children "Biafra".

I even knew Jonathan Aitken's house in Lord North Street long before he went to live there. I remember calling on Brendan Bracken in the 1950s, and being shown the Romney portrait of Burke, of which he was so proud. Bracken was a close friend of Beaverbrook as well as Churchill, and would have been pleased to think that his house was now occupied by Beaverbrook's great-nephew. Bracken was good at rows and greatly enjoyed them. He was also a loyal friend in time of trouble. No doubt his spirit stands in Jonathan's corner.

I also remember Jonathan in the 1970s as a host to the Conservative Philosophy Group, with Margaret Thatcher listening to Friedrich von Hayek like a schoolgirl, her face glowing with attention. Later, with Jonathan's support, the Thorney Island Society won a brave conservation battle to save the public library in Great Smith Street, Westminster, from the ravages of one of the concrete-slab developers. So I have found myself scoring Jonathan at three to one, with Biafra, Hayek and Great Smith Street as battles on which we have been on the same side, but Anna Ford's glass of chablis to be taken seriously into account on the other side of the ledger.

Next to be taken into account is my long-standing prejudice against *The Guardian*, a weakness of which I have not yet been able to cure myself. In my mind that newspaper stands for all that is rotten in the state of Hampstead, for a false progressive humbug. The fact that I irritate them as much as they do me is a shameful satisfaction. For the period of this legal action, I must repeat to myself the mantra: "Be fair to *The Guardian*."

It is now up to *The Guardian* to prove its charges against Jonathan in front of a jury (this is a public and therefore a jury case, not one of those complex libels which can properly be heard by a judge on his own). If the paper pleads justification, the onus of proof will be upon it. *The Guardian* cannot successfully plead fair comment — the central allegations are matters of fact, not of opinion. No doubt Jonathan will receive a roasting in the cross-examination, but will handle himself well. He will not be deterred by the fear of this cross-examination.

It would be wrong to prejudge the case; the duel will be one to the death. Yet Jonathan Aitken has one general advantage. In his relations with Saudi Arabia, he was trying to sell things to them, not the other way round. In broad terms, a British Member of Parliament who is trying to export goods and services to another country may be presumed to be acting in the national interest.

There was little the Saudis wanted of us — they were not trying to sell to Britain, nor did they need to hire a British politician to get Britain to place contracts with them. No doubt in the period Britain bought some Saudi oil, but that would have been as part of the general world oil market.

It is plainly right that the Prime Minister should allow Jonathan Aitken to clear his name in the courts while remaining a minister. The suggestion that he should have stood down for the whole period of the libel action is itself a sleazy one — it goes against natural justice. These are serious accusations of misconduct in his public capacity; he denies them. Until a jury has heard the case, he is entitled to the presumption of innocence.

The other recent case, that of Richard Spring, raises different issues. The facts do not appear to be in dispute. The questions are whether the *News of the World* unjustly invaded his privacy and whether "three in a bed" is a hanging offence for a parliamentary private secretary. Most people would think that this story, which seems partly to have been obtained by concealed recording, was an unjustifiable intrusion on personal privacy. It certainly brings a privacy law closer. Most people recognise that what the tabloid press calls "sex romps" occur in the lives of otherwise useful and responsible people, perhaps particularly among politicians with their extrovert temperaments and irregular hours.

The Jonathan Aitken issue is: was he guilty? If he was, *The Guardian* has been fully justified in exposing him. If he was not, he will be equally entitled to heavy damages. The Richard Spring issue is: does his guilt matter? To that the answer seems to be that sufficient public opinion still thinks that it does to make it hard for the Government to brazen out his conduct. The Aitken case will now be settled in the courts, which is as it should be. The Spring case has destroyed a promising career, with no prospect of appeal. That is not as it should be.

Scrap this costly vanity

Norman Lamont says Europe needs no parliament

If the Government seriously believes in a Europe of nation-states, we need a new agenda for the 1996 inter-governmental conference. We cannot go on accepting institutions and procedures that increase pressures for a federal Europe. We need proposals to change the nature of the European Union by giving the national Parliaments of Europe a new role.

Do we really need the European Parliament? Does this vastly expensive, pretentious assembly, for which so few people vote, really serve any purpose? If we are to be a Europe of nation states, is there any place for a directly elected parliament?

Democracy requires a link between the act of voting and an observable result which is clear enough to convince the public their participation is worthwhile. Democracy also needs issues simple enough to be described in terms the public understands. Can anyone say that is true of the European Parliament?

At the last European elections, the turnout was only 36 per cent. Some MEPs were elected by only 15 or 16 per cent of the electorate, but went off to the European Parliament proclaiming their democratic mandate to build Europe.

The parliament does not come cheap. Last year this Hapsburg Assembly cost the public of Europe an astonishing sum something over £500 million — nearly £1 million for each elected member. Even taking out the unavoidable extra travel costs, the cost per member is several times that of the House of Commons.

The European Parliament is not a proper parliament. Democracy cannot function without political parties, and political parties do not exist across the nations of Europe. Instead of parties there is only a series of weak alliances held together by the thinnest of programmes.

The powers of the parliament are increasing all the time. Mercifully it cannot yet raise revenue or dictate tax rates, though it certainly dispenses largesse. Its powers were significantly increased by the Single European Act — a Trojan Horse that has imposed many unwanted bureaucratic regulations in the name of the single market. Then at Maastricht we were forced to make concessions to the European Parliament, rather than give way on other points that seemed more important at the time.

The new powers are essentially negative, but many national parliaments in history have built their power on the right to say no, or, in the case of the House of Commons, on the right to deny supply. Armed with these new powers, the European Parliament will certainly insist that the Council should not introduce legislation without prior agreement. It could, for instance, start rejecting any Council proposal put forward without its involvement.

The continued existence of a directly elected European Parliament makes sense only if it is expected to evolve over the years and eventually acquire more powers. The present half-way house has no logic. The Euro-enthusiasts know this and are content to wait. For the moment they are happy to exploit the recently acquired new powers, but they know that every four or five years, at each inter-governmental conference, they will be able to demand more powers for the parliament in the name of "more efficient decision-making". Each time, they will win more powers in the complicated bargaining.

For them, the development of the parliament is part of the process of institution-building in Europe. Many are quite unabashed about this. Mr Schauble, one of the possible successors to Chancellor Kohl, recently said: "My concept of European statehood cannot do without parliamentary legitimation of law-making . . . Co-decision should be extended to all areas of policy, and the European Parliament should have the right to initiate legislation."

We shall be lectured at about the so-called "democratic deficit" in Europe. If accepted, this insidious phrase leads logically to the abandonment of the idea of a Europe of nation-states, in favour of a European superstate.

There is one simple way of increasing democracy in Europe, and that is to ensure that no decision is taken in Brussels unless it has been debated and approved by national parliaments. British members of the European Parliament are in a permanent minority, and therefore they cannot protect Britain's national interests. For this reason, the parliament ought to be restricted to consultative work, and its members ought to be either nominated or elected from national parliaments. A directly elected parliament is an expensive nonsense, utterly inconsistent with the idea of a Europe of nation-states.

At the next inter-governmental conference, Britain should reject all proposals to give more power to the European Parliament, and should instead propose returning to an assembly drawn from national parliaments. Europe does not need an elected parliament; for it will inevitably push for more powers for itself, and for a centralised Europe.

This is an extract from the MP for Kingston's speech to the Campaign for an Independent Britain.

V for vintage

THE CHANCE to celebrate Victory in Europe in style comes up next month, when one of only two known remaining jeroboams of Château Mouton Rothschild's celebrated 1945 vintage is auctioned in Geneva.

The jeroboam is equivalent to six bottles, and carries the victory label of the day, designed by the artist Phillipe Julian, with a large "V" and the words *Année De La Victoire*. Christie's has put an estimate of £14,000 on the bottle, which works out at around £80 per savoured mouthful.



The label on the jar

Wine buffs cannot control themselves. "A really great wine. It will last well into the next century," says Serena Sutcliffe of Sotheby's. Michael Broadbent of Christie's is hopping with excitement. "It's a Churchill of a wine. I give it 21 out of 20 and six stars out of five."

Only 24 jeroboams were produced in victory year, which provided a tiny harvest after a frost in May, making for an extraordinarily concentrated wine. The bottle to be auctioned is the 18th out of the 24, and Christie's knows of just one other jeroboam.

Among the few who have tasted the '45 is Lord Archer. "I had a glass about ten years ago when Peter Palumbo opened a bottle," he says. "I couldn't drink wine for two weeks afterwards. Everything else tasted awful compared to it, like the stuff you get at Conservative functions."

Speak up

FRANCIS URQUHART, the appalling fictional Prime Minister in *House of Cards*, couldn't possibly have commented on the confessions of his creator, Michael Dobbs, in next month's *GQ* magazine. But Dobbs suggests he was frightened of his former boss in the Conservative Party, Margaret Thatcher.

"I do have one regret," he says. "I wish that just once I had had the guts to say [to her], 'This is nonsense. I've never heard so much . . . so much whatsit in my life'." It appears Dobbs simply didn't have the courage to challenge the Iron Lady, whose company he didn't enjoy and whose sense of humour he never quite grasped. "She usually laughed about a second after she should have started laughing," he says.

DIARY

Crêche course

STOUT resistance to the idea of a crêche at the Palace of Westminster comes from the most formidable woman in politics: Beryl Goldsmith, OBE, Lord Tebbit's indomitable secretary of many years standing.

She pulls no punches on the matter: "Some of us hope the pressure for such facilities will be rejected," she writes in this week's issue of *The House*, the parliamentary magazine. "If daddy or mummy cannot bear to be a million miles away from Charlie or Charlotte, they should pursue other professions. This is Westminster — not Woolworths."

Swine indeed

THE STUARTS of Scotland are looking into muzzles for swine. The need is pressing at Traquair House, on the banks of the Tweed, Scotland's oldest continuously inhabited property, where Stuarts have lived for more than 500 years. Two pot-bellied pigs have started to nip the gardener, and there are fears that they might go for visitors when the house opens to the public this weekend.

"We got them a couple of weeks ago. They're brother and sister, and they're called Jasper and Jasmine," said Catherine Maxwell Stuart of Traquair. "We've been feeding them on draff from our brewery, which might explain why they're lively. If you know of any pig muzzles, do tell me."

● *Fishy goings-on in the diocese of Peterborough today: smoked haddock, to be precise. The Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Rev Bill Westwood, is feeding kedgeree to 130 visiting clergy this Maundy Thursday. "A lovely dish," he says. "You need butter and black pepper. And plenty of it."*



Wearabouts

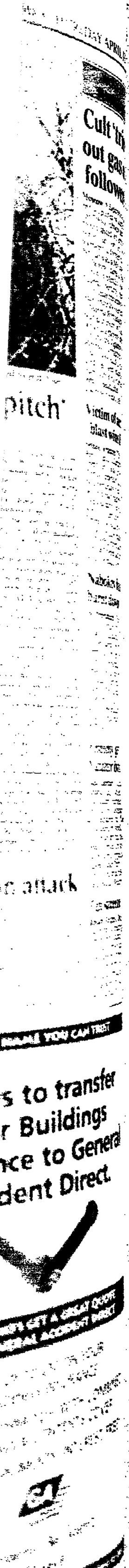
WHEN the Canadian High Commissioner, Royce Frith, visited the Cornish fishermen on Tuesday, it wasn't so much the sea of maple-leaf flags that caught the eye as the man himself. Or, rather, his choice of clothes: a dark blue chalk-stripe suit, floppy bow tie, suede shoes with crepe soles and a tweed hat befitting the owner of a country estate.

"A very unusual combination," remarked an image consultant from Color Me Beautiful. "It either shows extraordinary creativity or none at all."


Canada drull: Royce Frith

The truth, says Frith, is more prosaic. "I couldn't find a manual on what to wear to see Cornish fishermen, so I decided to throw in a bit of everything. The diplomat in me went for a pin-striped suit and bow tie; the tweed hat, which I wear for my country walks at the weekend, was for the farmers and fishermen. And then I wore rubber-soled shoes in case I had to get onto a fork lift truck or something."

P·H·S



WITH STRINGS ATTACHED

Russia needs IMF advice as much as IMF money

Three times since 1992, Russia has obtained loans from the International Monetary Fund to support macro-economic reforms and to stabilise the rouble. Each time, the Russian Government has failed to live up to its solemn promises of monetary discipline, reduced budgetary deficits and economic liberalisation. This week the IMF board approved a further $6.8 billion standby loan to see Russia through the 1995 budget year. This is the IMF's largest commitment yet to Russia, and the second largest loan in the IMF's history. Michel Camdessus, the IMF's managing director, claims to be personally convinced not only that Russia's reforms for 1995 are "bold and ambitious", but that this time, President Yeltsin has taken the austerity pledge in good earnest. Under the desk, his fingers must be crossed.

The Russian President has only the sketchiest grasp of economics, and M Camdessus knows from hard experience that in Russia, there is no such thing as a copper-bottomed guarantee. Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, insists that Russia's commitment to sound money is unbounded; but he said the same last year. Across Russia yesterday, workers were striking over wage arrears, a reminder that compliance will make the Government even more unpopular than it is today. Parliamentary elections are due in December. No wonder the IMF has insisted that this time, it will pay out only in monthly slices and only if Russia meets the agreed targets.

In terms of the Russian economy, even $6.8 billion is small beer, sufficient to cover only about a third of its projected budget deficit (and about equal to the military bill for the Chechenia operation). Economists argue with reason that Russia could finance the entire budget itself, if it liberalised its oil and gas industries and taxed them at close to world levels: Gazprom, the gas monopoly once headed by Mr Chernomyrdin, is scandalously protected on both counts. Russia still pays vast subsidies — accounting for half this year's planned spending — to state-owned industrial, mining and agricultural monopolies; and far too little of that money goes into overhauling them. Privatisation of Russia's collective farms is almost completely stalled and uneconomic mines stay in production without paying their miners.

But the need for such reforms is precisely what justifies the IMF's decision. The loan, and the monitoring that accompanies it, will give Russia's small band of genuine reformers much-needed leverage. Mr Yeltsin's eagerness to close the IMF deal has already yielded some results. Under a law passed in January, it is illegal for the government to finance the deficit by printing money. The same month the Central Bank, put under much firmer management following last October's rouble crisis, actually cut the money supply. Under a new decree, any overshooting of spending targets must be approved by President, Government and Parliament. That will fend off demands for additional state subsidies. The reformers will need all the help they can get: this year, the powerful farm bosses, who routinely demand handouts to get the harvest in, have started pressing for more cash before planting is even well under way.

Provided Russian targets mean something this time, the worst could just be over. Russia's economy may at last have stopped declining, and the country could even move into modest growth by late summer. Falling inflation and rising tax revenues would make it politically easier for the Government to live up to its promises of further structural reforms. That would release up to $2 billion more in World Bank finance, and coax back some of the $24 billion officially estimated to be salted away in Western accounts by Russian investors and enterprises. Russia needs the IMF not despite but because of the conditions attached to the loan. That is the point Western leaders should drum into Mr Yeltsin when they celebrate the 50th anniversary of victory with him in Moscow next month.

ANSWER THE QUESTION

Teachers are focusing on the wrong issue

For parents who thought that a truce had been achieved between the nation's teachers and the Government, the prospect of another summer of classroom disruption must be dismaying. Yesterday the traditionally moderate Association of Teachers and Lecturers voted to ballot its members on industrial action over class sizes. There is every chance that the more radical unions will follow suit. Having forced a review of the national curriculum by industrial action, teachers are clearly tempted to repeat the strategy in the months ahead.

The ATL's vote was doubtless intended to embarrass Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, on the day she addressed the union. It is hard to imagine a more destructive gesture. Mrs Shephard has done more than any recent education minister to build bridges with the teaching profession; it could even be argued that she has gone a little too far in this respect. She has fought hard in Cabinet for education funding. Her speech to the NAS/UWT teaching union this year will be the first visit by an Education Secretary to a TUC-affiliated union's conference since 1986. By attacking Mrs Shephard, the teachers risk alienating the best advocate they have in the Government.

The issue they have chosen for their latest protest is, in any case, wrong-headed. Class size, it is true, is an issue which many parents cite in polls as an area of concern. But it should not be assumed that the correlation between smaller classes and higher quality education is automatic. A small class taught by an incompetent teacher will always be outperformed by a larger one taught by someone who is able to maintain discipline, convey knowledge clearly and inspire rigour. In East Asian countries which consistently out-perform Britain in educational standards, classes can often be as large as 60. What is right for Korea is not necessarily right for Britain; but the comparison does show that small classes are not a prerequisite of first-rate education.

If standards are to improve, the educational debate must focus on more than resources. The national curriculum has established a benchmark to which schools must conform; league tables have given parents more information than ever before and encouraged head teachers to copy best practice; the introduction of grant-maintained status has enabled those schools that wish to develop their own character outside the town hall system to do so. The next phase of educational reform must be an unflinching review of teaching methods.

The new Teacher Training Agency has announced a comprehensive review of the in-service training. Christopher Woodhead, the chief inspector of schools, has launched a welcome campaign to weed out "woolly, simplistic or otherwise corrupt" teaching methods. Many schools are still deeply influenced by the so-called "progressive" teaching philosophy of the 1960s which puts self-esteem above achievement and "child-centred learning" ahead of traditional didacticism. By singling out a small number of high-achieving schools — "beacons of excellence" — Mr Woodhead is encouraging heads to leave these outdated and discredited ideas behind. These initiatives are to be welcomed. But the scale of the task should not be underestimated. It is regrettably clear that the teaching unions will do all they can to prevent debate moving onto this terrain.

SPAIN'S TRAWLERS

Canada has offered a compromise: Madrid must be moderate

The fish that the Canadians call the turbot, the Spanish call the *fletán* and the Cornish call the Greenland halibut has provoked a crisis in the European Union's diplomacy. Talks in Brussels to resolve the dispute over Canada's recent apprehension of a Spanish trawler ended inconclusively yesterday. As the negotiators break for Easter, the conflict will fester: the blame rests squarely with the EU, and with Spain in particular.

Canada has tendered a measured compromise, agreeing to a reduction of 6,300 tonnes in its own turbot quota. It has offered to accept an increase to the tune of 6,600 tonnes in the quota of the EU — and for EU, read Spain. Both parties would thus have a total allowable catch of 10,000 tonnes each. This formula was set for adoption a week ago, whereupon the EU proceeded to introduce a series of Madrid-inspired filibusters. These include demands that Canada return to Spain the bond paid for the release of the offending Spanish trawler, the *Estai*, and that Canada repeal the legislation under which she was detained. Naturally, these are demands to which Ottawa cannot agree.

The detention of Spanish trawlers earlier this week in South African and Irish waters highlights the extent of the global problem of over-fishing. Fisheries officials in Cape Town reported that the offending vessel was using a net that was 22 km long; the vessels arrested by the Irish authorities, Spanish-owned but flying flags of convenience, had exceeded their quota and caught under-sized fish. These offences are now typical practice in our age of industrialised hunting and gathering: the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) reported recently that 70 per cent of fish stocks are now either fully exploited or depleted. The EU's irresponsible common fisheries policy has contributed greatly to this plunder, and was the principal reason why Norway voted against accession to the Union.

The Grand Banks dispute would not have arisen had the international law of fisheries had more to say on the question of conservation. A compromise over North Atlantic Fisheries Organisation quotas — which is inevitable, given Madrid's diplomatic limitations and the weakness of its case — should not cause us to forget a more compelling objective, that of a global convention which calls a halt to over-fishing and allows for the rebuilding of fish stocks.

A few mealy-mouthed articles in the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and a non-binding FAO "Consensus on World Fisheries" are simply not good enough. Clear rules of prescription, prohibition and enforcement need rapidly to be laid down to govern the manner in which fishing is pursued in the high seas. By its "citizen's arrest" of the *Estai*, Canada has drawn our attention to the unconscionable state of international law. In defending its legitimate interests, Canada has acted for us all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Lessons to be learnt from unpopularity of Tory party

From Mr Brian Whittingham

Sir, In my view John Major is naive to ascribe his party's extreme unpopularity to dissension among his Tory colleagues.

I voted for decades for a party which purported to preserve what was best in our British way of life and, of course, our independence. Whilst the Prime Minister and his Cabinet colleagues play lip service to the principle of democracy, they share with the previous prime minister a marked intolerance of any view not shared by themselves.

They apparently fail to comprehend that the British electorate is profoundly unhappy with curtailed educational opportunities; higher effective taxation — especially for the less well off; ominous cutbacks in the care available for the sick and the mentally disadvantaged; widespread unemployment, job insecurity and homelessness; and inexorably growing loss of sovereignty vis-à-vis the European Union.

I suggest that many erstwhile Conservative supporters, who may be denied an opportunity to vote for the likes of William Cash, Teresa Gorman and Sir Teddy Taylor, will be faced with an unpalatable choice: metamorphosed socialism (Labour), pseudo-socialism (Liberal Democrats) or abstention.

I for one am alarmed when Mr Major and Sir Edward Heath call for the unquestioning obedience from democratically elected MPs which used to characterise parliamentarians in totalitarian regimes.

Your obedient servant,
B. WHITTINGHAM,
Green Gables,
Wicken Road, Clavering,
Nr Saffron Walden, Essex.
April 7.

From Mr Simon P. Toms

Sir, The whipless nine have caused untold damage to the electability of the Tories and must realise that we shall never be returned for a fifth term in office if unity does not come about. It is not only backbenchers who are at fault.

Cabinet Ministers should worry less about whether they will fill John Major's shoes when he is replaced and worry more about whether there will be a Conservative Party to lead.

Yours sincerely,
SIMON TOMS
(Vice-Chairman, South East Cornwall Conservative Association),
Wycherley,
16 Meadow Close, Polruan, Cornwall.

From Mr Jerome Gardner

Sir, The true reason, I believe, for the present condition of the Conservative Party is the precise opposite to Mr Major's diagnosis — in that the degree of support which the party still retains with the electorate is due very largely to the similar proportion of "rebels" whom he castigates for disloyalty but who, in fact, speak for a considerable majority of Conservative voters up and down the country.

Yours faithfully,
JEROME GARDNER,
Morticombe, Cherry Bridge,
Barbrook, Lynton, Devon.
April 7.

From Mr E. M. Holt

Sir, The Scottish local election results have a message for Mr Major. Far from opposing the Labour Party's intention to grant limited home rule to the Scottish people, he should use his majority, while he still has one, to force immediate full independence for Scotland and rid himself of a permanent and increasing body of Opposition MPs.

Yours sincerely,
E. M. HOLT,
Frieze Farm, Crowsley,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.
April 7.

From Mr Richard McLellan

Sir, To fall from 50.1 per cent of the popular vote in Scotland during the 1955 general election to 11.3 per cent in 1995 shows a rejection of the Conservative Party more profound than can be explained by its current difficulties. In Scotland, the Conservatives are seen as an almost alien political organisation whose natural home is southern England.

The state of the party is terminal in Scotland, in my view, and I would be very surprised if it held three Scottish seats after the next general election. Any resurrection of right-of-centre politics here will have to come from an indigenous party without any formal links with English Conservatism. That will only happen when a Scottish Parliament is established in Edinburgh.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. McLELLAN,
4 Stag Park, Lochgilphead, Argyll.
April 8.

From Mr E. B. Shaxson

Sir, If Douglas Hurd is right in his assertion that the Tory party is less popular than John Major (report, April 8), does this signal the end of Conservatism?

Yours etc,
BRUCE SHAXSON,
8 Oakhurst, Crossways Road,
Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey.
April 8.

West's reaction to Turkey in Iraq

From Dr S. A. Mousalimas

Sir, Turkey has oppressed the indigenous non-Turkish peoples of Asia Minor through the course of this century: Armenians, Greeks, Aramaic Syrians and Kurds. Its human rights record is abysmal, even on Turks.

It continues — in defiance of UN resolutions — to occupy a large part of another country, Cyprus, which it brutally invaded. Today, Turkey is crossing another international border, Iraq's, and is again killing civilians; yet we read in your leading article, "Turkey and the West" (April 7), the suggestion that "its friends" should be "persistent in arguing the case for" a "face-saving solution".

Yours faithfully,
S. A. MOUSALIMAS,
Lesok, Water Lane,
Greenham North,
Newbury, Berkshire.
April 7.

From Mr A. Papantoniou

Sir, An act of aggression, whether carried out by an ally or an adversary, should be condemned outright, and more so when human rights are violated and civilians are at the mercy of a foreign army. Double standards breed violence, further aggression and widespread resentment.

Yours faithfully,
A. PAPANTONIOU,
289a High Street,
West Bromwich, West Midlands.
April 7.

Equal opportunities

From Mr Derek G. Potter

Sir, For me adequately to respond to Mr Ian C. Baillie's letter (April 11) on an advertisement encouraging disabled people to apply for a historic buildings officer's job, I am afraid I must be permitted a small toot on my trumpet.

In 1950, in my second year studying architecture, I suffered total paralysis of my right leg as a result of polio, since when I have had to rely on the use of a full-length caliper for support.

For the past 45 years as an architect I seem to have been more involved with site supervision of building contractors than in the back rooms of the design team, and worked for two years on sites in Saudi Arabia and four years in Luxembourg, apart from many UK sites.

Mr Baillie should be aware that having mobility problems does not rule out being able to run an efficient site — it can of course allow more time for a full inspection to be made as one negotiates difficult terrain.

The fact that no serious accident occurred on any of my sites was due in part, I believe, to my disability, as the chaps worked harder on safety matters on my behalf than they would normally have done.

I hope very much that those placing the advertisement will not be discouraged from appointing the right person for the job just because of some physical disability.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK POTTER,
29 MSB House,
19 The Mall,
Bromley, Kent.
April 11.

Cantona's penalty

From His Honour J. F. Evans, QC

Sir, A well-known footballer did something criminal, wholly unusual, and outside any behaviour which might have been expected under any oral provocation.

A courageous bench of magistrates treated the case as very unusual and imposed a stern but fair and moderate sentence.

The Crown Court changed that, ordering the offender to do "community service" (report, April 7). He must do, by way of punishment for his offence, what many sportsmen have done voluntarily — teach their skills to the young. Thus are the magistrates impliedly criticised and humiliated for doing what to so many must have seemed right and fair.

How glad I am that, being retired from the circuit bench, I can now write to you to express my sympathy for the magistrates. How right I think they were!

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FIELD EVANS,
1 Fountain Court,
Birmingham 4.
April 8.

Law and the State

From Dr D. G. Peacock

Sir, I was both interested and disturbed to see the letter (April 7) from the Coalition on Child Prostitution and Tourism. In seeking a law to allow "UK citizens to be tried here for sexual offences against children overseas" they are surely allowing their distaste for an activity, a distaste which I happen to share, to blind them to the larger implications.

The Government's response seems to be that legislation would not result in successful prosecutions. Would that it had simply said that private conduct within the law overseas was none of its business.

Your correspondents put what they seek with commendable clarity. They wish the Government to "take responsibility for the conduct of its own nationals" when abroad. It comes uncomfortably close to a principle that the State owns the citizen and may therefore control his actions wherever they take place.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD G. PEACOCK,
University of London,
The School of Pharmacy,
29-39 Brunswick Square, WC1.
April 11.

Labour and Europe

From Ms Joyce Quin, MP for Gateshead East (Labour)

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky's article, "Britain failing to ask the right questions in Europe" (Business, April 6), claims that British politicians ignore pragmatic considerations in their attitude to EMU and fail to look at issues such as unemployment or the extent to which the convergence criteria are deflationary.

This is nonsense as far as Labour is concerned. We highlight these aspects frequently, as could be seen in Tony Blair's remarks at Chatham House only this week (report, April 6).

Furthermore in Labour's comprehensive statement on Europe, passed at the 1993 party conference, we read that "convergence must be based on real economic performance — on improving levels of growth and employment and not just on monetary objectives alone".

Labour has also stressed the need to fulfil article 2 of the Maastricht treaty which aims at sustainable growth and a high level of employment and has called for the criteria to be interpreted flexibly in order to avoid deflationary dangers.

Yours faithfully,
JOYCE QUIN
(Opposition Spokesperson on European Affairs),
House of Commons.
April 7.

Capital punishment

From Mr N. W. Ward

Sir, Is it not ironic that at a time when capital punishment is very much in the news a man has been released from a murder sentence (report, April 7) not only because of his innocence but because no murder had in fact occurred?

This remarkable man spent three years working to prove his innocence. In earlier times he would not have had the opportunity unless he could do it in three weeks.

Yours,
N. W. WARD,
13 Courtlands Crescent,
Banstead, Surrey.
April 7.

Services 'shake-up'

From Brigadier J. P. Maxwell (retd)

Sir, Few would question the need to review Service organisation and support in the light of recent political and military changes. However, there must be alarm at the apparently endless tinkering with our Armed Forces, which puts at risk the whole fabric of the Services and their ability effectively to mount a sizeable operation, let alone mobilise for war.

Our forces are held in high esteem in this country and envied by other nations, because of the professional standards, discipline and binding pride of their members, and the high quality of their leaders. This very special condition must not be jeopardised by the proposals of the Bett committee to streamline ranks and structure (report, April 6).

"Delayering" of management levels in business — largely a cost-cutting device under the guise of so-called "empowerment" — has led to overstretch and imbalance.

A career in the Army, followed by ten years training directors and managers in business and industry, revealed to me that civilian management has little to teach the military about running organisations and leading people.

Military rank structures, with their proven span of command and effectiveness, are widely recognised as underpinning the high standards consistently achieved in peace, low-intensity operations and war.

We should beware of short-term expedients which prejudice our capacity to respond to the unforeseen of the future — and leave well alone.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MAXWELL,
Brook Lodge,
Hambledon, Hampshire.
April 7.

Police trauma

From Mr Allan Gore

Sir, I do not know the full facts of those cases or the reasoning of the judge in dismissing the cases of the Hillsborough police officers (report, April 11).

With respect however to your editorial ("Trauma in uniform", April 11), I know of no legal principle that holds that exercising a right of choice (in this case as to the career to follow) amounts to consent to injury inflicted by the negligence of others. If you, or for that matter, the present Chief Constable, were correct, the police officer or the fire-fighter or the medical attendant would be disentitled from recovering damages even for physical injury suffered in the course of service, which thankfully is not presently the case.

What this decision highlights is that it is the treatment of psychological injury that is illogical, inconsistent and sorely in need of reform, which view is now shared by the Law Commission in the recommendations in its recent consultation paper (report, March 29).

In the meantime, hopefully we will not put off those committed to working in the emergency services, very often for poor pay by comparison to what they are expected to endure in serving the public, by disentitling them to claim damages for negligently inflicted injury of whatever character.

Yours faithfully,
ALLAN GORE,
12 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.
April 11.

Single currency

From Mr Hannes Kleineke

Sir, With regard to the European controversy over the design of the proposed single currency (report, April 10), I think it is worth noting that there is a precedent for coins with a "federal" side and a "local" side.

After a common currency was introduced in the newly unified German Empire in 1875, all coins above the denomination of 1 Mark (ie, silver coins worth 2, 3 and 5 Marks, and gold coins worth 5, 10 and 20 Marks) bore the imperial eagle on one side, but the heads of the relevant territorial princes alternating on the other.

Yours faithfully,
H. KLEINEKE,
Highfield Court, Egham, Surrey.

Modern manners

From Ms Ghislaine Hubbard

Sir, At a renowned hotel in central London last week the friend I was with attempted to send two glasses of champagne to a couple of gentlemen seated nearby.

The head waiter in The American Bar informed her that while he would be perfectly happy to deliver drinks to a woman ordered by a male guest, he was not prepared to do the same service for a woman.

I fail to see the logic.

Yours etc,
G. HUBBARD,
Moulden Wood Cottage,
Chillies Lane,
Crowborough, East Sussex.
April 7.

Hay fever

From Mrs Fabienne Smith

Sir, Dr Shuttaford points out (Medical Briefing, April 10) that hay fever was first described as a medical condition in 1819, "when it was considered a rarity". Sydney Smith wrote with his usual verve to Dr Holland in June 1835:

I am suffering from my old complaint, the hay-fever. My fear is, perishing by deliquescence; I melt away in nasal and lachrymal profluvia. My remedies are warm pediluvium, cathartics, topical application of a watery solution of opium to eyes, ears, and the interior of the nostrils. The membrane is so irritable that light, dust, contradiction, an absurd remark, the sight of a Dissenter — anything, sets me sneezing.

Yours sincerely,
FABIENNE SMITH,
55 Manor Place,
Edinburgh 3.
April 10.

Poor look-out

From Miss Eleanor Hyde

Sir, To the average, only mildly feminist young woman, one thing jars in Malcolm Bradbury's comments in his interview with Valerie Grove (April 7): must "the rise of women" be categorised with "the ozone layer, pollution, Aids, ... the demise of the nuclear family" and "the consequences of drugs" as a symptom of a world whose future he sees as gloomy?

Yours faithfully,
ELEANOR HYDE,
70 Blyth Road,
Worksop, Nottinghamshire.
April 7.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Bats in the belfry

From Mr Richard Morgan

Sir, I read with great interest your report, "Anglicans have more bats in their belfry" (later editions, April 12). In fact it is unusual for bats to roost in belfries, and here in Thaxted parish church they tend to roost above the organ in the north transept.

The notion that "the heavy use of incense was responsible for deterring bats" is false. We have had a "heavy use of incense" here every Sunday since Easter 1911 and we *still* have bats.

Yours etc,
RICHARD MORGAN,
The Carpenters Arms,
24 Newbiggen Street,
Thaxted, Essex.
April 12.

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 10: The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires), this afternoon received Lieutenant General Sir Anthony Denison-Smith (Colonel), Captain Richard Walch (Regimental representative at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst) and Officer Cadets being commissioned into the Regiment.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, The Princesss of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires), afterwards received Lieutenant Colonel Michael Cooper upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel Paul Newton upon assuming the appointment.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 11: The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires), today visited the 1st Battalion at Lisanelly Barracks, Omagh, Northern Ireland.

Mr Patrick Jephson was in attendance.

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 12: The Queen was represented by the Lord Camoys (Lord in Waiting) at a Wreath-Laying Ceremony to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Memorial in Grosvenor Square, London W1, this morning.

The Hon Mary Morrison has succeeded Lady Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 12: The Duke of York this morning re-opened the London Toy and Model Museum, London W2.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this evening presented the Young Electronic Designer Awards at the Science Museum, London SW7.

Captain Neil Blair RN was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 12: The Prince of Wales today visited Swansea and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Glamorgan (Mr Robert Hastie).

His Royal Highness this morning presented his Award for Innovation at the Conference "Technology Based Innovation and Global Competitiveness", organised by the Welsh Development Agency in conjunction with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, at the Brangwyn Hall.

The Prince of Wales, Chairman, The Prince of Wales' Committee, this afternoon opened the Environment Centre, the Old Telephone Exchange, Pier Street.

His Royal Highness afterwards visited the Ty Llen (the Old Guildhall) and viewed a series of events forming part of the United Kingdom Year of Literature and Writing.

Mr Matthew Butler was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, The Guide Association, held a Reception at Kensington Palace this afternoon following the presentation of Brooches to those who have become Queen's Guides.

The Lady Juliet Townsend was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
April 12: The Duke of Kent, President, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, this morning visited the Bembridge Lifeboat Station, Bembridge, the Isle of Wight, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Isle of Wight (The Lord Mottistone).

His Royal Highness later opened the new slipway, Island Youth Water Activity Centre, Arctic Road, Cowes, and this afternoon opened the Inshore Lifeboat Centre, Clarence Road, East Cowes, the Isle of Wight.

Captain Marcus Barnett was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 12: Princess Alexandra, Patron of the Starlight Foundation, this afternoon received Mr Alan Hopper, Chairman.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Maundy service in Coventry Cathedral at 11.00 and will distribute the Royal Maundy during the service.

Princess Margaret, Colonel-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, will visit the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, at 12.30.

The Pilgrims

The Queen was represented by Lord Camoys, who laid a wreath at the statue of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in Grosvenor Square yesterday, to mark the 50th anniversary of his death.

Prince Michael of Kent, Mr Tony Newton, MP, representing the British Government, the American Ambassador, representing the American Government, and Lord Carrington, KG, CH, representing The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain, also laid wreaths. The Right Rev David Say, chaplain to the society, said a prayer.

The American Ambassador gave a reception at the embassy afterwards.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford, statesman, London, 1593; Jean Pierre de Crousaz, philosopher, Lausanne, 1663; Frederick North, 2nd Earl of Guilford, Prime Minister 1770-82, London, 1732; Thomas Jefferson, 3rd American President 1809-09, Shadwell, Virginia, 1713; Thomas Beddoes, physician, Shifnal, Shropshire, 1760; Richard Trevithick, pioneer of railways, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771; György Lukács, philosopher, Budapest, 1885; Sir Arthur Harris, Marshal of the RAF, Cheltenham, 1892; John Braine, novelist, Bradford, 1922.

DEATHS: Jean de La Fontaine, poet, Paris, 1695; Charles Leslie, controversialist, Glasiough, Ireland, 1722; Hugh Clapperton, African explorer, Sokoto, Nigeria, 1827; Sir William Orchardson, painter, London, 1910.

The Catholic Emancipation Act was passed, 1829.

The Anti-Semitic League was founded in Prussia, 1882.

Retirement

His Honour Judge Geoffrey Baker, QC, retired on Tuesday from the Circuit Bench on the North Eastern Circuit.

The Continuing Professional Development Foundation

Prince Michael of Kent presented the Millennium 2000 Continuing Professional Development Foundation Awards and the Foundation's Special Prize on Tuesday evening at the Royal Institution of Great Britain. Mr Jonathan Harris, OBE, President of the Foundation, was in the chair. Earlier Mr David Neuberger, QC, had delivered the Foundation/Estates Gazette 1995 special lecture. Among those present were:

The Duke of Westminster (foundation's patron), members of the foundation's advisory board, and presidents and chairmen of the many professional institutions and societies that recognise the foundation's activities.



MARTIN BEDDALL

Mrs Barbara Osborne, of Teddington, west London, admires Iceland poppies at the Royal Horticultural Society flower show, Westminster, yesterday

Birthdays today

The Kabaka of Buganda celebrates his 40th birthday today.

Miss Audrey Barker, writer, 77; Mr Stephen Byers, MP, 42; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield, 82; Mr Frank Chamberlain, former chairman, Test and County Cricket Board, 70; the Hon Alan Clark, former MP, 67; the Right Rev R.N. Coote, former Bishop of Colchester, 80; Mr Liam Cosgrave, former leader, Fine Gael Party, 75; Mr Beverley Cross, playwright, 64; Mr Peter Davison, actor, 44; Mr Edward Fox, actor, 58; Mr Justice Harman, 65; Mr Peter M. Harris, Official Solicitor to the Supreme Court, 58; Air Marshal Sir Kenneth Hayr, 60; Mr Seamus Heaney, poet, 56; Sir Peter Heap, diplomat, 60.

Mr Garry Kasparov, chess player, 32; Mr Howard Keel, singer and actor, 76; Canon J.N.D. Kelly, former Principal, St Edmund Hall, Oxford, 80; the Duke of Marlborough, 69; Mr Jonjo O'Neill, racehorse trainer, 43; Dame Margaret Price, opera singer, 54; Sir Stephen Roberts, former chairman, Milk Marketing Board, 80; Mrs Barbara Roche, MP, 41; Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza, industrialist, 74; Lord Wedderburn of Charlton, QC, 68; Sir John Weston, diplomat, 57; Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, 74.

Royal Caledonian Ball

Tickets are still available for The Royal Caledonian Ball to be held on April 27, at Grosvenor House. Tickets are £55 per person to include full breakfast and dancing until 3.30am. A 3-course dinner is available at £28 per person to include a half bottle of wine. For ticket applications please telephone or fax Mrs R.H. Tym, 01264 810363.

Lectures

Royal College of Physicians of London

Professor William Bynum delivered a lecture to the Royal College of Physicians of London last night at the college. A dinner was held afterwards.

Air League

Dr Michael Foale delivered a lecture yesterday to the Air League at the RAF Club, Piccadilly.

Church services today

Maundy Thursday

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 11 Blessing of Oils & Renewal of Vows, The Bishop; 8 Euch & Vigil.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green 8.15 M & HC: 10.30 Blessing of Oils, Missa Brevis (Britten), O Mysterium Ineffabile (Lalloueticl; 5.15 EP: 7.30 Choral Euch, Lotissier Mass (Sumsion), Ave Regina coelorum (De Crisio), The Dean.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 11 Euch, Blessing of Oils, The Archbishop; 3.30 Thursday Candle, Our Lady Undercroft; 5.30 E; 7.30 S Euch & Stripping of Altar, Missa in honorem S Dominici (Rubbra), Seniores populi (Victoria), O vos omnes (Casals).

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 5.30 E; 7.30 S Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Ubi caritas (Durufle).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8.15, 10 HC; 12 Euch, Renewal of ordination promises; 5.15 EP; 7.45 S Euch, Ubi Caritas (Durufle), Il ye love me (Tallis), Darke in E, Christus factus est (Bruckner), Rev V Stock.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.15 MP; 7.45 Euch & Blessing of Oils; 11.30, 12.30 HC; 5.15 Choral E. Responses (Plainsong), Crucifixus (Monteverdi); 7.30 Euch.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 8 MP; 11 Royal Maundy Service; 5 EP; 7.30 Euch, A new commandment (Wright), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Christus factus est (Bruckner), Canon V Pauli.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 7.30, 11, 7.30 HC, Walton (Missa Brevis), Ubi caritas et amor, Let us employ all notes of joy, Drop drop slow tears, Rev M Parker; 9 MP; 12.30 Prayers for Peace & Justice; 5.15 EP.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M; 11.15 S Euch & Blessing of Oils, Dvorak in D, Ubi caritas (Durufle); 5.30 E, Preces (Ebdon), Short Service (Morley), Jesu dulcis memoria (Dering); 7.30 S Euch, St Mary's Church followed by watch of prayer in St Dunstan's Chapel until midnight.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 HC; 11 Euch for Blessing of Oils; 6.15 EP; 7.30 Euch, Laudes, From heaven you came (Kendrick), My song is love unknown (Archer).

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 Euch & washing of Feet, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Ubi caritas (Durufle), Christus factus est (Bruckner).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M (Longland Chantry); 8 HC; 11.30 S Euch & Blessings of Oils by the Bishop; 5.15 E (Boy's voices); 7.30 S Euch & Stripping of Altars.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 6.50, 7.30, 9.15 & 11 H Euch; 7.30 Yr Offeren (St David Chapel); 11 S Euch & Blessing of Oils; 6 E, Short Service (Farrant), Tristis est anima mea (Lassus); 7.30 S Euch, The Dean.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 MP; 8, 1.10 HC; 10 Bishop's Euch; 5.30 E; 7.30 Stripping of Altars & Vigil.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 7.30 HC; 11 Euch, Mass of St Thomas (Thorne), When I survey (Archer), The Bishop; 5.30 Responses (Morley), Short Service/O Lord increase my faith (Gibbson); 7.30 Euch, Gloria (Mertecke), Sanctus & Agnus Dei (Plainsong), If ye love me (Tallis), Ubi caritas (Durufle), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Christus factus est (Aneriо), Rev Dr S Barton.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 11 Blessing of Oils & Renewal of Ordination Vows, The Bishop; 1 HC; 5.30 EP; 7.30 Euch followed by Watch of Passion until midnight.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 12 Diocesan Chrism Euch; 5 EP & Intercessions; 7 S Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Ave Verum Corpus (Byrd); 8 Watch of Prayer until midnight.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 7.30 M; 8, 12.30 HC; 4.30 E; 5 Euch & Liturgy, Missa brevis (Walton), A new Commandment (Leddington Wright), Tantum ergo (Durufle), Miserere mei (Allegria), Canon C Semper.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 6 Mass of the Lord's Supper, Missa Papae Lingus (Desquin), Ubi caritas et amor (Mawby), followed by Watch at Altar of Repose until midnight; HE The Cardinal.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M; 9.30 S Euch with Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Ordination Commitment, Darke in F, O Saviour of the world (Ouseley), The Bishop; 12 HC; 5.30 E; 7 Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Canon Walker.

YORK MINSTER: 7.30 M; 7.50, 11.30 HC; 5 E, Second Service (Tomkins), Christus factus est (Bruckner); 7.30 S Euch with Stripping of Alter, Missa Sine Nomine (Tallis).

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 7.30 M; 8 & 12.30 HC; 4 E; 5 S Euch, Missa Pampe Lingua (Josquin), O sacrum convivium (Thalis), Ubi caritas et amor (Durufle); 6.15-7.30 Watch of Passion.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 9 MP, 6.30 HM, Vaughan Williams in G minor, Christus factus est (Bruckner), Rev P McCleary.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 6, Missa Petre ego pro te rogavi (Lobo), O Crux ave spes unica (Finetti), Christus factus est (Anerio).

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 6.30 SM & Procession, Mass in D (Dvorak), Ubi caritas (Durufle), O Domine Jesu Christe (Guerrero).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 MP, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 12.45, Canon C Semper; 5 HC, St Paul's Cathedral; 7.30 HC, Foundery Chapel, Rev P Mably.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 7 Last Supper, Rev Dr R John Tudor.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 7.30 Choral Euch, Stripping of the Altars and Vigil.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 8 HC.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 6 SM, Missa Sine nomine (Asola).

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 S Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina).

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8.15 S Euch, Missa L'Hora Passa (Viadana), Drop drop slow tears (Walton), Rev St Paurick.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 6.30 Euch of Last Supper & Vigil, St Martin's Service (Stringer), Lord how long wilt thou be angry? (Purcell), Litany of Penitence (Plainsong), Miserere (Allegri), The Lamentation (Balrstow).

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 10 Choral C & Blessing of Oils, The Bishop of London; 7 Choral C, The Lord's Supper & Stripping of Altars.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 6.30 HM, Mass for five voices, Fr J Gilling.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 Euch, Last Supper & Watch until midnight.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 6.30 followed by The Watch at the Altar of Repose until midnight, Christus factus est (Bruckner), Ubi caritas (Durufle), Ave verum (Phillips), Canon A Dunstan.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 6.30, Missa Sine Nomine (Hassler), Christus factus est pro nobis (Bruckner), Rev D B Tillyer.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 7 HC, Mass (Byrd for four voices), O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), Canon J G M Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 7.30 Choral Euch, Men's voices, I give you a new commandment (Shepherd), Three Voices (Byrd), Vocem meam audiet (Ferrabosco I).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 6.30, Mass of the Last Supper, Mass in the Dorian Mode/Lamentations (Tallis), Ubi Caritas (Durufle), Rev S Hobbs.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 12 Choral HC, Holy God we show forth here (Wagner), Ave verum (Mozart).

Queen's Counsel, 1995

The Queen has approved the appointment of three Queen's Counsel *honoris causa* and 71 new Queen's Counsel.

Queen's Counsel *honoris causa*:
Professor Robert Francis Vere Heuston; Professor John David McClean; Professor Peter Brian Herrenden Birks.

Queen's Counsel:
John Grenfell Numing (M); Harendra Aneurin Domingo de Silva (M); Gordon Stuart Murdoch (I); Stephen Ernest Kramer (G); John Peter Gwynne Griffiths (G); Romie Tager (M); James Nicholas Browne (I); Mark Evans (G); John Michael Aspinall (I); David Charles Unwin (M); Pryce Michael Farmer (G); Patrick David Curran (G); Michael John Lerego (I); Oliver Matthew Sells (I); Martin Sydney Heslop (L); Stephen Robert Powles (M); Nicholas Blethyn Elliott (G); Alison Ball (M); Anthony Hugh Speaight (M); Robert John Furber (I); Jeremy Stewart Gibbons (G); David Patrick Spens (I); James Hendricuss Allen (G); Charles Thomas Wide (I); Mark Jeremy Herbert (L); Richard Anthony Benson (I); Mark Fortescue Platts-Mills (I&L); The Hon Philip Nigel Havers (I); Peter Carter (G); James Patrick Tabor (M); James Richard Kenrick Price (I); Christopher David Allan (G); Timothy Robert Lamb (G); Nadine Poggioli Radford (L); Heather Hughson Swindells (M); Robert Geoffrey Bruere Allen (M); Charles John Raffles Flint (M); Andrew Geoffrey Lockyer Prynne (M); Jonathan Clive Marks (I); Jonathan David Durham Hall (G); David Andrew Stockdale (M); Richard Stanley Salter (I); Paul Daniel Batty (L); William David Antony Hicks (I); Rebecca Maria Poulet (L); Timothy John Whittaker Scott (G); Richard John Bloor Drabble (I); James (M); Nicholas Bethyn Elliott (G); William Bonney (L); Alexander William Layton (M); Christopher Allen Wood Gibson (M); Edward Henry Garnier, MP (M); Richard Hugh Miller (M); Cherie Booth (L); Alistair Stevenson Webster (M); Simon Staley Brown (I); Florence Jacqueline Baron (M); Terence Rennie Mowschenson (M); Colin Neil Edelman (M); Stephen John Sauvain (L); Simeon Andrew Maskrey (G); The Hon Launcelot Dinadan James Henderson (L); Michael Jonathan Black (M); Andrew George Lindsay Nicol (M); John Yeoman Randall (L); Edward Hamilton Fitzgerald (I); Christopher Thomas Storey (L); Dr Michael John Powers (L); Catherine Mary Newman (M); Anna Evelyn Hamilton Pauffley (M); Jonathan Nicholas Crispin Gulsman (I); Richard David Adkins (M&G).

Letters in brackets indicate the Inn of Court from which each applicant was called. M — Middle Temple; I — Inner Temple; G — Gray's Inn; L — Lincoln's Inn.

Latest wills

Mr Anthony William Metherell, of Brighton, East Sussex, left estate valued at £4,976,476 net.

Dr John Bishop Harman, of London W1, Consultant Physician at St Thomas's Hospital 1938-72, President of the Medical Defence Union 1976-81 and father of Harriet Harman, the Labour MP, left estate valued at £758,472 net.

Mr Edwin Stuart Gomer Evans, of Grimsby, South Humberside, Stuart Evans, the novelist, poet and a drama producer at the BBC, left estate valued at £451,810 net.

He left £50,000 to the National Kidney Research Fund, and £20,000 each to St Andrew's Hospice, Grimsby, and Fishermen's and Sailors' Harbour of Refuge Almshouse Trust, Grimsby.

Cecilia Frydman, of Wembley, north London, left estate valued at £663,220.

She left her flat and furniture to personal legatees, and the residue equally between the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief, Norwood Child Care, Children and Youth Aliyah, Jewish Welfare Board, Nightingale House Home for Aged Jews and the Jewish Home and Hospital at Tottenham.

Recent estates include (net, before tax paid):

Mr Peter Keith Collier, of Bricklay, Worcestershire £874,487
Mrs Agnes Dodgson, of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk £668,278
Mrs Ruby Gladys Coe, of Upminster, Essex £552,864
Mr Edward Fowler, of Highgate, London, N6 ..... £737,616
Mrs Sheila Jean Hazlewood, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, £719,722
Betty Louise Jacomb-Hood, of East Grinstead, West Sussex £658,458
Mr Wavell Thomas James Hopkins, of Ystalyfera, Swansea, West Glamorgan £573,142
Mr Joseph Livingstone, of Birkenhead, Merseyside £832,080
Mrs Constance Mary Millard, of St Mary's, Isle of Scilly, Cornwall £1,401,363
Frances Edith Turner, of Sheffield, South Yorkshire £1,774,725
Nancy Joan Webb, of Bournemouth, Dorset £937,718
Mrs Margaret Weaver Williamson, of Brassey Green, Tarporley, Cheshire £900,378
Mrs Doris Irene Wood, of Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire £610,155
Mr Osmond James George McMullen, of Great Chishill, Cambridgeshire ..... £642,332.
Mr Abdulla Moselhi, of London SW19 ..... £598,010.
Mr George Fladgate Penny, of Wendens Ambo, Essex ..... £699,048.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.W.P. Cross and Miss J.C. Whitaker
The engagement is announced between Anthony, younger son of Mr John Cross, CBE, and Mrs Cross, of Isworth, Suffolk, and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Whitaker, of Glenfarg, Perthshire.

Mr J.M. Fawcett and Miss G.R. Simpson
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Moore, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Fawcett, of Hoveringham, Nottingham, and Gemma Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Simpson, of Redhill, Nottingham.

Mr J.V.P. Holmes and Miss S.M. Herbert
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs Colin Holmes, of Hereford, and Suzi, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Herbert, of Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr H.G.J. King and Miss H.M. Outhwaite
The engagement is announced between Henry, eldest son of Mr J.M. King, of Beaconsfield, and the late Mrs Ruth King and stepson of Dr E.J. King, and Helen, daughter of the Rev and Mrs S.A. Outhwaite, of St Cross, Winchester.

Mr Q.M.P. Lane and Miss S.E. Graham
The engagement is announced between Piers, second son of Mr and Mrs Terence Lane, of Rake, Liss, Hampshire, and Susan, youngest daughter of Mrs Barbara Graham, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr A.J.C. Maxwell and Miss V.E. Geaves
The engagement is announced between Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs Timothy Maxwell, of Upper Wraxall, Wiltshire, and Victoria, daughter of Mr David Geaves and Mrs Birgitta Geaves, of Burnham on Crouch.

Mr N.J. Saint and Miss E.J.A. Cooke
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the late Mr Francis Saint and of Mrs Pauline Saint, of Odiham, Hampshire, and Elspeth, youngest daughter of the late Dr David Cooke and of Mrs June Cooke, of Dalham, Suffolk.

Mr B.M. Simpson and Miss P.J. Roberts
The engagement is announced between Brian, son of Mr and Mrs George Simpson, of North Piddle, Worcestershire, and Penelope, daughter of Mr Edward Roberts, CBE, and Mrs Roberts, of Grafton Flyford, Worcestershire.

Mr P.J. Tandy and Miss K.E. Burgess
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of the late Mr Brian Tandy and of Mrs Eunice Cox, of Bicton, Western Australia, and Katie, daughter of Mr John Burgess, of East Carlton, Leicestershire, and of the late Mrs Rhona Miszewska, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

Marriage

Signor M. Bassili and Dr E.A. Coady
The marriage took place quietly in Bath on Saturday, April 8, 1995, between Maurizio Bassili, of Perugia, Italy, and Ann Coady, daughter of Major Archie Coady, of Biddestone, Wiltshire, and the late Lady St Johnston.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Stuart Ramsden, Vicar, Purston, cum South Featherstone (Wakefield); to be also an Honorary Canon of Wakefield Cathedral.

The Rev David Randall-Cutrare, St Cuthbert's, Wells w. Wookey Hole; to be Team Vicar, Wellington Team Ministry (Bath and Wells).

The Rev John Roberts, Rector, St Peter, Woolton; to be also a Canon Diocesan (Liverpool).

The Rev Peter Roberts, Priest-in-charge, Orange Walk w. Corozal (Belize, British Honduras); now Vicar, Collingham w. Harewood (Ripon).

The Rev Jonathan Russell, Rector, Selling w. Throwley and Sheldwich w. Badlesmere and Leaveland; to be Priest-in-charge, Elham w. Denton and Wootton (Canterbury).

The Rev Geoffrey Seabrook, Rector, St Mary w. St George, Hornsey; to be also Area Dean of West Haringey (London).

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

I have much to say about you and in judgement. But he who sent me speaks the truth, and what I heard from him I report to the world. John 8 : 26 (REB)

BIRTHS

BRUN - On 19th February 1995, to Anderly (née Kellett) and Edward, a son, James Angus Constantin, 3lbs 3oz, a brother for Clemmie, Freddie, Archie and Kit.

CALLINAN - On Monday April 10th at The Whittington Hospital, Highgate, to Janet and Joseph, a son, Dominic William, a brother for Luke and Matthew.

DENT - On April 9th, to Diana (née Schollick) and Simon, a son, Nicholas Jonathan, a brother for Annabelle.

FALKINER - On 3rd April at Bath, to Jeffrey and Barbara (née Giles), a son, Aidan Michael, a brother for Simon.

HALLAN-WOLFF - On April 11th 1995, to Linda and Simon, a son, Paul Mattias Henrik, a brother for Anja Kristin Marie.

HUGHES - On 9th April, to Catherine (née Hunter) and Raoul, a son, Joseph Raoul William, a brother for Henrietta.

JONES - To Tamara (née Williamson) and Dr Hugh on 7th April 1995 a son, Michael James. Special thanks to the Kerpow Team and all at Treliske Hospital Truro.

POMEROY - On 29th March, to Erica (née Weir) and Nicholas, a daughter, Eleanor Eve.

RAMSDEN - On April 8th in Madrid, to Ben and Nicky (née Abell), a daughter, Eleanor Margaret, a sister for Max.

SOMPER - On April 6th, to Jane and Nick, a son, James Geoffrey, at U.C.H.

DEATHS

ALLOM - On April 8th 1995, Maurice James Carrick Allom aged 89 years. Suddenly but peacefully in his sleep. Beloved husband, father, stepfather and grandfather. Private cremation on Monday 24th April followed by service of thanksgiving at St Peter's, Ightham, nr. Sevenoaks at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, c/o 37 Bedford Gardens, London W8 7EF.

AUSTIN - Helen Laura, peacefully at home on 11th April 1995. Beloved wife of the late W.G.L. Austin. Funeral Service at St Bartholomew's Church, Horley, at 2 pm, followed by cremation at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium at 3 pm on Friday 28th April. Family flowers only. Donations to Disabled Drivers Association. All enquiries to Francis Chappell, (01293) 821407.

BARRETT - Irene (née Arbesini Bovary, Contessa Della Torre dei Torti), on Wednesday 22nd March, peacefully in hospital after a very brief illness, in her 92nd year. Beloved wife of the late Ingram Arthur Barrett, splendid mother of Mary, she will be sadly missed by son-in-law David Brighouse and grandchildren Ronald, Alexander, Marina and her husband Paul Thorpe. Funeral Mass took place at RC English Martyrs Church, Strood (Rochester) on 1st April.

BENN-LEWIS - John, peacefully at his home in Pouton-Le-Fylde, on April 11th 1995, Vice President of The French National Rugby Union Federation. Loving husband of Brenda. Service and cremation to be held at Carleton Crematorium, Blackpool, on Thursday April 20th at 12.30 pm. No flowers by request. All enquiries please to C.T. Hull Funeral Services, Poulton-Le-Fylde. tel: (01253) 899848.

BLACK - William Edward, on 9th April in hospital in his 91st year. His working life was devoted to the Coffee Trade in which he became a world authority. Beloved husband, father and grandfather. Cremation private. Donations, if desired, to Jenner Ward, Severalls Hospital, Colchester. CO4 5HJ.

BROOK - On 11th April, Patricia Grace (née Ruffman) died peacefully at Milford House. Beloved wife of the late Major David Brook, Firth Fusiliers, mother of Richard and Ann and grandmother of Victoria, David, Georgina and Alexandra. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Wednesday 19th April 1995 at 10.15 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Fusiliers of Northumberland Benevolent Society c/o Funeral Directors, Newman, 85 Winchester Street, Salisbury. tel: (01722) 413136.

COOPER - On April 9th, Peter Reinacle Cooper, B.M., B.Ch.(Oxon), formerly of Nigeria and Heathrow. Cremation private. Funeral Service at Christ Church, Victoria Road, W8, on Friday 28th April at 11.30am. No flowers or letters. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, (0171) 937-0787.

ELIOT-COHEN - On 11th April, peacefully at home, Christopher, much loved husband of Susie and loving father of Sarah, Amanda and Timothy. Funeral, private. Thanksgiving Service at the Church of the Holy Cross, Ramsbury, at 3 pm, on Friday 12th May 1995. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to Marie Curie Cancer Care, The Health Centre, Cartax Street, Swindon, SN1 1ED.

ELWES - On April 11th, Aileen Mary, aged 100 years, wife of the late Geoffrey Elwes. Funeral private and no flowers at her request. R.I.P.

FITZMAURICE - On April 9th, peacefully in hospital, Elinor aged 80 years, formerly of Chelsea, dearly beloved sister of the late Margaret. Sadly missed by all her loving family and friends. Funeral Service on Tuesday 18th April at Putney Vale Crematorium at 11.45am. Enquiries and flowers to J.H. Kenyon, (0171) 937-0787.

HENDERSON - On April 10th, peacefully, The Hon. Elizabeth (Betty) Frances (née Mayl, former Flight Captain A.T.A., World War II, Ferry Pilot. Dearly loved and greatly admired by family and friends. Cremation at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, on Friday April 21st at 2.30 pm. Flowers (no wreaths). Enquiries to Fredk. W. Paine, Funeral Directors, tel: (0181) 399-2060.

HILL - Henry Hubert, MC, died peacefully at the Nyewood Centre, Bognor Regis, on 30th March 1995, aged 75. Sometime Major (acting Lieutenant-Colonel) of the Royal Fusiliers, Barrister (First Class Honours, Bar Final Examinations 1969), and Judge of the Supreme Court of Tonga. Father of Annette, Elizabeth, Barbara Claudine, and Nicole. Cousin of Cicely. Grandfather of Roger, Holly, Simon, Alexis, Sophie, Charles and Antoine. The funeral has taken place.

HILL - On 9th April 1995 at Moorhouse Nursing Home, Hindhead, Surrey, Ruby ("Hilly") O.B.E. aged 97, peacefully with typical dignity and humour after a long and wonderful life. Loved by all who were privileged to know her. Funeral Service at St Alban's Church, Hindhead, 12 noon Wednesday 26th April. No flowers. Donations to Stroke Association, CHSA House, Whitecross Street, London EC1Y 8JJ or enquiries to Leith of Haslemere tel: (01428) 643524.

HOGAN - On 6th April 1995, in London, Patricia, widow of Sir Michael Hogan K.C.M.G., dearest aunt of Patricia Lorraine, Lorraine, Jon and Marcus Fisher, and Kate and Nigel Anthony, by all of whom she is deeply mourned. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 25th April at 10 am at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Cheyne Row, SW3, followed by cremation at Putney Vale. May she rest in peace.

HUNTINGFORD - On April 10th, peacefully in hospital, Ruth, beloved sister of Doril. Service in St Peter and St Paul, Ellesborough, nr. Wendover, Bucks., on Wednesday 19th April at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Royal Marsden Hospital, London SW3 6JJ.

KIRKLAND - On April 11th peacefully after a very courageous fight against cancer, John Charles aged 59 of Daddenhoe End, Essex. Son of Joyce, very much loved husband of Georgie and adored and devoted father of Alex. Will, Laura and son-in-law of William. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church, Elmdon, Essex, at 12 noon on Wednesday 19th April. Family flowers only. Donations to the MacMillan Nurses c/o H. Pemgood & Son, Shire Hill, Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden, Essex. tel: (01799) 523514.

PELLY - Rosa Salome (née Wordsworth) quickly and peacefully at home on 10th April, aged 94. Beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

PILKINGTON - On 10th April 1995 peacefully in hospital, Rosemary, beloved wife of the late Richard, dearly loved mother of Richard, Kidwell, Flora, Serena and Julia and cherished grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral for immediate family only. Thanksgiving Service to be announced. Donations, if desired to The Royal Star and Garter Home for disabled ex-servicemen and women, Richmond, Surrey.

RALSTON - On April 11th, peacefully at Whaley Bridge, Gavin aged 82, widower of Charity and father of Ann, Carolyn and Andrew. Much loved husband of Margie. Funeral Service at 2.30 pm on Saturday 15th April at St James Church, Taxal, Whaley Bridge. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Christie Hospital Trust, Withington, Manchester. Any enquiries to Messrs J. & S.M. Williamson (01663) 732054.

VARCE - Dr. John, passed away peacefully at home in London on 12th April. Much loved husband, father and grandfather. The funeral service will be held on Thursday 20th April at 11am at Chelsea Old Church. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queens Gate, London SW7 5HR.

WALKER - It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Mary Katherine, much loved wife of Joe and mother of Josephine and Colin. Mary (née Cobb) died on April 2nd peacefully at her home in Buenos Aires.

WARD - On April 8th, Elizabeth Mary, for 52 years dearly loved wife of Peter, mother of Justin and Charlotte, grandmother to Peter, Colin, Tom, Jessica and Gemma. Cremation Guildford 19th April 11.30am. Flowers, no flowers but donations if wished to Fleet Air Arm Officers Association or Musicians Benevolent Association c/o Plums Funeral Services, Mary Road, Guildford. tel: (01483) 67394.

WEST - On April 11th 1995, peacefully, Roger Derek, dear husband of Catherine (Kay), loving father of Debbie and proud grandfather of Emma and Richard. Funeral Service at Chiltern Crematorium, Amersham, on Tuesday 18th April 12.30pm. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to R.N.L.I. c/o Stuart Price Funeral Service, 13 Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks. HP6 5BD, tel: (01494) 434484.

WHARFE - Delphine Weissinger, on 10th April beloved wife of Willy, mother of Sue-Pam, Cate and William, grandmother of James, Catherine, Dominic and Will. Cremation at Mortlake Crematorium, 1.30pm, Tuesday 18th April followed by thanksgiving service at St Paul's Church, Brentford at 4.30 pm. No flowers please. Donations to Princess Alice Hospice c/o W.A. Truslove, 31 High Street, Cheam.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

KING - Mr P.J. King (P.J.'J'). Memorial Service or Thanksgiving - Bedford Modern School, Manton Lane, Bedford Saturday 29th April, 11 am. All welcome, but please indicate numbers attending by letter to OBM Club at the School, by phone (01234) 364551 or fax (01234) 270951.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BIRCHETT - Stephen, 13th April

OBITUARIES

FRANK SANDERSON

Frank Sanderson, construction company executive, died on March 24 aged 68. He was born on June 16, 1926.



GENIAL, persuasive and determined in equal measure, Frank Sanderson displayed a rare ability both to build companies and bounce back after adversity in a career which involved him in one of the City's most hard-fought takeover battles. Whereas most entrepreneurs would be content, to create one substantial company, Sanderson built up five within the construction and property sectors, of which the best known is Bovis.

Many builders can be gruff but Sanderson was charm itself, giving generous amounts of time and energy to others. He sat on the board of the Greyhound Racing Association and Television South, for which he built their studio in Maidstone.

He served on the MCC grounds committee and masterminded the construction of its indoor cricket school at Lord's used by England's Test cricketers.

Malcolm Frank Sanderson gained his early education at Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School. But it was his service in the Army between 1944 and 1947, which was the key to his development as a successful businessman. He first served in the Royal Artillery. He then completed his officer training in the Indian Army, emerging as top cadet in his class, and going on to serve successfully as an officer in the area which became Pakistan. Through this he gained an important sense of self-esteem which never left him.

On his return to Britain Sanderson worked for a variety of companies. But he eventually decided to set up his own estate agency in south east London and Kent in 1949, on the back of a £250 loan.

He always preferred to be known as Frank, but elected to call his firm Malcolm Sanderson on the basis that it sounded more businesslike. Within seven years the firm was making £20,000 a year — no small sum in those days.

Sanderson started on the road to even greater prosperity when Bovis, a construction company founded in 1885, bought his firm in 1967. Bovis's then chairman was Keith, later Lord, Joseph.

Joseph backed Sanderson's rise to the top at Bovis which culminated with his appointment as chairman and chief executive in 1969. Before too long the firm's hummingbird logo appeared on numerous building sites across the land. Sanderson was particularly successful in developing Bovis's long standing relationship with Marks & Spencer, building and developing innovative new stores.

Sanderson's charm, coupled with a determined negotiating stance, provided the key to Bovis's ability to find new work. Between 1967 and 1973 its profits rose from £300,000 to £13.5 million a year.

A familiar customer at the Berkeley Hotel in Mayfair, and an occasional visitor to the Savoy, Sanderson's easy manner made him friends at the highest level in the City. He became particularly friendly with Ford Geddes, the chairman of the shipping group P&O. Sanderson convinced Geddes that Bovis could redevelop P&O's property interests and restore its fortunes.

One of the strangest bid battles the City has ever seen then followed, as Geddes, as chairman of P&O agreed to buy Bovis, only to be challenged by a P&O director, Lord Inchcape, whose grandfather had built up the P&O shipping company. Sanderson was taken aback by Inchcape's intervention, believing that he had his support, and staggered when Lord Inchcape's trading empire mounted a counter bid for P&O.

The battle, one of the first contested situations ever seen in the City, aroused high emotions. The financier Oliver Jessel, who owned a stake in P&O, was famous for driving round the City with giant stickers on his car saying: "Save P&O — tell Bovis NO!"

Throughout, Sanderson appeared to be unflappable — a talent which greatly impressed all who met him. The day after P&O shareholders threw out the Bovis takeover proposals, he had a relaxed chat with journalists over tea at the Savoy and talked of his regret that a good deal had fallen through.

In private Sanderson was devastated by the turn of events and later left Bovis, as the property slump of 1974-76 took a grip. P&O eventually agreed to take over Bovis, after all, thus implicitly accepting that Sanderson's original idea had merit.

It did not take too long for Sanderson to bounce back and to build up a new company called Finlas, which pioneered retirement home construction in the UK. Sanderson sold it to the Alfred McAlpine construction company and went on to its board, but soon yearned to be back in control of his own destiny.

He left in order to establish a venture to build a string of nursing homes across the country, sold several at a substantial profit and built more through a newly-quoted company called Egerton.

Its activities in this field set a precedent which other nursing home companies have followed as a result of the Government's encouragement for the private sector to take over care for the elderly. Egerton later spread its activities into housing, property and construction, both in Britain and America, and had a turnover of £150 million at its peak.

The property slump of 1990-92 left many entrepreneurs deeply depressed. But Sanderson retained his zest for life and business. In 1992 he found backing from the venture capital group 3i to take control of an historic construction company called Thomas Vale, which once built the Iron Bridge at Stourport.

Business apart, Sanderson retained a love of sport. Apart from his involvement with MCC, he was a member of the Rye Golf Club and owned a number of racehorses, including Arctic Actress, a favourite to win the Grand National in 1960: Simian, which won the Massey Ferguson Gold Cup at Cheltenham in 1971; and Stratford Ponds, winner of the 1989 Bessborough Stakes at Royal Ascot.

He appreciated good music, was a regular visitor to the Mozart festival in Salzburg and was a patron of the Sidcup Symphony Orchestra.

Frank Sanderson is survived by his wife Sheila and three children.

MAURICE ALLOM

Maurice Allom, former England and Surrey bowler, died on April 9 aged 89. He was born on March 23, 1906.



MAURICE ALLOM was both a distinguished cricketer for Cambridge University, Surrey and England and, as president of MCC in 1969-70 and of Surrey 1971-79, a respected administrator.

In his capacity as president of MCC he encountered troubled times. He was at the helm of the club's affairs and, therefore, those of English cricket, during a controversial tour of England planned for the South African team.

The opposition to the tour by Harold Wilson's Labour Government, and the demonstrations mounted by the various anti-Apartheid groups before the eventual cancellation of the tour, found Allom in the hottest seat ever inhabited by an MCC president (even bearing in mind the ructions occasioned by the 1932-33 "bodyline" tour of Australia).

Yet throughout this period Allom never lost his benign, cheerful and kindly attitude to his fellow men, even those who were causing him a great deal of trouble. He remained the same companionable, unassuming person who from Wellington College went on to play for Cambridge University, Surrey and England as an amateur medium-fast bowler in the manner of the great Maurice Tate.

Fun was never far below the surface with Maurice James Carrick Allom, who hid his considerable attainments beneath a beguiling cloak of modesty. He was 6ft 3in, a height which allowed him to gain nip as well as movement off the pitch and brought him 605 first class wickets at just over 23 a-piece in a career which contained some remarkable highlights.

The most notable of these came when he marked his debut in Test match cricket with a world record when he took four wickets in five balls, including a hat-trick, against New Zealand during MCC's 1929-30 tour. He played in all four Tests during that series and in one Test match during the tour of South Africa in the following year.

By then he had taken part in two University matches for Cambridge, had taken 60 wickets in a season for the university and had played for Surrey as one of four amateurs who provided a foil to the fast bowling of Surrey's redoubtable Bill Hitch, under the captaincy of Percy Fender. His best season was in 1930 when he took 108 wickets.

He had also played for a time to the beat of a different drum. While still an undergraduate, his skill with the saxophone, both tenor and baritone, drew the attention of the 1920s' jazz band leader, Fred Elizalde. Allom's appearances with the band in 1927 did not lead to a career as a musician but his talent was unmistakeable.

Instead, he persisted with his niche in the family firm. Allom's Lighting, which — together with the patronage of Sir Julien Cahn — enabled him to continue his first class cricket career, on and off, until 1937. It was while playing for Cahn that he was stricken with what Cahn's Indian physician diagnosed as smallpox.

Allom's debilitation was such that it might well have been that dread disease from which he was suffering. But in order not to cause alarm and, above all, to keep the whole of the county cricket season intact, word went out that chicken pox had been the verdict. Whatever it was, it possibly cost him a place in Douglas Jardine's bodyline tour, although, had he gone, it was unlikely that he would have fitted into Jardine's Test match plans.

It was one of the great delights of Allom's life to attend the 1994 Lord's Test match against South Africa as an ordinary, elderly member of MCC with his 91-year-old brother. Unsurprisingly, perhaps, the anonymity he sought lasted but a brief time. He was soon whisked away by his many friends from South Africa to join their celebrations and answer demands for his autograph. Equally unsurprising was that he should respond, as he did to every call during his varied life, with charm, modesty and a willingness to please those who sought his help.

His two successive wives, Pamela and Audrey, predeceased him and he is survived by two sons and a daughter from the first marriage.

GUNTER GUILLAUME

Günter Guillaume, former East German spy, died from a heart attack at his home in Eggersdorf near Berlin on April 9 aged 68. He was born in Berlin on February 1, 1927.



Günter Guillaume, right, with Willy Brandt

BY BRINGING about the resignation of Willy Brandt, the West German Chancellor, in May 1974, Günter Guillaume achieved one of the most devastating espionage triumphs of the Cold War.

In a classic piece of undercover infiltration he penetrated the upper echelons of the West German Social Democratic Party, working himself up to a job inside the Chancellery as one of Brandt's three personal assistants, a position that gave him extensive access to some of the top secrets of the Western Alliance.

For 18 years until his activites were unmasked, he maintained a steady output of espionage material of increasing importance by means of dead-letter drops and personal meetings with his case officer and through the courier activities of his wife Christel who was also a fully trained spy.

A short, friendly man with a neat haircut and rimless glasses, Günter Guillaume looked and acted like a typical political party functionary and between 1970 and 1973 was an ubiquitous presence at the Chancellor's elbow. But he had become an officer in the East German National Army shortly after joining the East German Communist Party in 1952. He was trained as an agent, probably at a Russian spy school outside Kiev, and in 1956 entered West Germany in the guise of a refugee — one of the thousands who crossed the border annually.

Together with his wife he settled in Frankfurt and within a month of "escaping" from the East had set up a courier network, dead-letter boxes and "cover" addresses. Guillaume soon became a "resident" — the head of a group of spies with responsibility for sending the group's information to East Germany. A year after his arrival in the West he joined the SPD posing as a committed voluntary worker whose sympathies lay on the right wing of the party.

He and his wife then became paid employees of the party in Frankfurt and acquired reputations for their organising ability. In 1969 Guillaume, with the active support of respected members of the party, began to look for a job as a civil servant in Bonn and at the beginning of 1970 he was appointed to the economic and social affairs staff of the Chancellery. A security check was made on him but he was given "white card" clearance by West German counter-intelligence, which meant that nothing was known against him.

He was duly confirmed in office and appointed Brandt's personal assistant for liaison with the SPD. He worked in the Chancellor's office in the Palais Schaumburg and also had his own office at the SPD party headquarters. He was given a security rating that gave him access to top-secret documents.

West German security officials only began to suspect him as a result of the evidence of a Soviet defector to the French who saw him on a television film, standing next to Brandt and recognised him as someone he had been on a course with at the Kiev military academy.

Although warned that Guillaume was under suspicion, the Chancellor allowed him access to secret documents right up to the time of his arrest in April 1973.

In the summer of 1973 he accompanied the Chancellor on holiday to Norway and while there had access to all incoming and outgoing messages between the Chancellor and Bonn, including a wealth of material about Nato at a time when a serious dispute had broken out between the United States and its European allies.

After his arrest Guillaume denied working for the Stasi, the secret police of the German Democratic Republic, but admitted that he had the rank of captain in its army.

He was sentenced in 1974 to 13 years in prison for treason but was freed in a 1981 spy-swap and returned to East Germany. He remained unrepentant to the end, maintaining in his memoirs that he was simpy "a messenger of peace".

Guillaume divorced Christel in 1981. He is survived by his second wife, a former nurse, and by his son, who emigrated to West Germany in 1988, changed his name and works as a photographer.

VIVIENNE BYERLEY

Vivienne Byerley, theatrical publicist, died on March 28 aged 88. She was born on August 31, 1906.

VIVIENNE BYERLEY was the sole press representative of the H. M. Tennent impresario, Hugh ("Binkie") Beaumont, and spent thirty years protecting her employer from the unwelcome attentions of curious journalists. Beaumont's distaste for publicity stemmed partly from natural reticence — "I haven't the temperament to be a Cochran or a Diaghilev," he once said — and partly from his belief that power was wielded most effectively anonymously and out of the spotlight.

So it was that Vivienne Byerley was given the unusual brief, for a publicist, of keeping Beaumont's name out of the papers. She performed the job so well that she became known around the H. M. Tennent offices as "No-News-Is-Good-News" Byerley. Journalists, starved of information, kept their distance and nothing particularly revealing came to light until Beaumont's death in 1973, after which the biographers set to work. When a homosexual scandal threatened to ruin a leading actor's career in the early 1950s, Emlyn Williams joked that the whole affair should have been handled by Vivienne: "Then nobody would have heard a thing about it."

Beaumont's strategy for productions could be equally restrictive from a press agent's perspective: he considered money spent advertising runaway successes a waste, and that failures should close and be forgotten as quickly as was decently possible.

Perhaps the freest rein Vivienne Byerley was given was when launching the West End production of *My Fair Lady* in 1958. This opened at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on April 30 that year and starred Rex Harrison as Higgins, fresh from his Broadway triumph in the same role. Vivienne Byerley whipped London theatregoers into frenzied anticipation in the months preceding the opening. No piece of rehearsal gossip was considered too trivial to run as a story, and the *Daily Express* capped her efforts by printing a countdown headline for several days before the opening night: "FIVE MORE DAYS", "FOUR MORE DAYS" etc, and finally, on April 30, "TONIGHT".

Although *My Fair Lady* was reckoned to be the most expensive show in theatre history — pre-production costs were a then staggering £85,000 — Byerley's press campaign resulted in massive advance bookings. By the beginning of March — two months before opening night — Beaumont could announce that the costs were paid and that the show was now making a profit.



Vivienne Byerley had a gentle personality, and despite the overheated backstage atmosphere of theatre management and the tyrannical disposition of her employer, she never lost her exquisite manners. She was born in London to two enthusiastic amateur singers and, after a private education, took a secretarial course.

Her first post was with the dramatist Guy Bolton. Vivienne became so friendly with her employer's family that his wife Virginia — with whom Vivienne shared the same initials — was in the habit of giving Vivienne her old monogramed cigarette lighters. In 1939 she joined Richard Clowes, the press representative for H. M. Tennent. The company was then only three years old but, after the death of the equally reclusive Harry Tennent in 1941, Beaumont quickly turned it into the most powerful management company in London. By 1947 Vivienne had become Binkie Beaumont's sole press representative.

She was responsible for publicising some 400 productions over the next three decades. Among them were *West Side Story* and plays by Noël Coward, Terence Rattigan, Peter Shaffer, Joe Orton, Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams. Vivienne Byerley supervised all the photo calls, working with Cecil Beaton and Angus McBean, and the latter became a personal friend who accompanied her on antique-hunting expeditions. She was not only an imaginative publicist but a diligent one, and she kept volumes of press cuttings, now housed with the Theatre Museum in Covent Garden.

Soon after Beaumont's death in 1973, many of the old guard left the company, including Vivienne Byerley. She had no pension but Beaumont made a provision in his will which enabled her to buy the freehold on her rented Victorian house in Highgate Archway and she lived there in retirement, surrounded by cats and lodgers. She was a good bridge player and a demon at Canasta. Unmarried, and as an only child of parents who were only children, she left much of her estate to animal charities.

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V DAY NOT THE END

AUSTRALIAN CALL TO BRITAIN

SAVAGERY OF JAPAN

In a statement addressed to the people of this country, Mr. F.M. Forde, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia, who is in London to take part in the British Commonwealth discussions preliminary to the San Francisco conference, said yesterday:—

When V Day occurs in Europe the people of Australia will be just as thankful as the people in Britain that the dangers which have beset the people there since the outbreak of war will have vanished and the Nazi aggressors have been crushed. At the same time it would be dangerous for anyone to believe that V Day in Europe means the end of the war. There will still be Japan, as powerful and ruthless an enemy as Germany, to be defeated before final victory. Whatever rejoicings take place in the United Kingdom, and I think that it is right to rejoice at the lifting of the dark clouds over this country after so much suffering and tragedy, the people of Britain should steadily bear in mind that a huge British Army now is fighting the Japanese in Burma and powerful units of the Royal Navy are engaged in the Pacific.

On V Day in Britain there will be many millions of people who will be thinking of their husbands, sons, brothers, and relatives fighting a most ruthless enemy on the other side of the world. There are large numbers of the British women's services oversea as well. As the war in the Pacific progresses, probably more than half of the people in Britain will have relatives engaged in the Pacific war. I am not saying this because Australia wants to be saved. That phase of the war is past. Our fighting forces, too, are on the offensive. Australian airmen and sailors in Britain will return to the Pacific when Germany is beaten to help their brothers smash the Japanese.

Do not let us think that the war is as good as won, and that we can divert our whole efforts to the problems of reconstruction the moment the German army lays down its arms. That type of thinking is dangerous, and I want to take this opportunity of saying to the people of Britain, with all the emphasis at my command, that there must be no slackening until the military colossus of the East has been destroyed and struck into the dust. Japan will have to be brought to unconditional surrender as well as Germany. I have heard the opinion expressed that the Japanese war effort will collapse like a house of cards soon after Germany is finally defeated. I have not seen one shred of evidence to support that opinion.

ON THIS DAY

April 13 1945

Though victory in Europe might be in sight, Mr. F.M. Forde, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia, pointed out forcibly that the "might and savagery which lies behind the Japanese dreams of conquest" had still to be overcome.

TOKYO BOMBED BY VERY LARGE FORCE

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, APRIL 12

A " very large " force of Super-Fortresses from the Marianas, escorted by Mustang fighters from Iwojima, bombed the big Nakajima Musashino aircraft engine works in the outskirts of Tokyo, and a second industrial target at Koriyama, 110 miles north of Tokyo, to-day, it was announced in Washington, by 20th Air Force Command. Returning pilots said they had left their targets burning fiercely.

Jane MacQuitty introduces a two-page report on wine, wineries and wine people — and regions to watch out for in the future

Why Britain is the best bet for wine drinkers

If you want to drink good classic and non-classic wines at keen prices from all over the world, my advice is move to Britain. London is still the wine capital of the world and even the sophisticated drinkers from acknowledged gourmet capitals like Paris and New York have nowhere near the selection that we do.

This is the country where it is still possible to drink decent French £1.99 bottles, such as Somerfield's red *Vin de Pays de Gascogne* and *L'Hérault Pair*, infinitely better than the French sub-16FFr (£2) plastic bottle counterparts, alongside new-wave £3.49 wine wonders from Brazil (Tesco stocked two last year), and Moldovan £3.25 specials at Safeway, on up to the finest and rarest of clarets and burgundies at prices to match.

All this has come about because traditionally England has not produced any great quantities of wine of her own and generations of UK wine drinkers and buyers have had to go abroad for their needs.

This trend has been helped greatly since the 1970s by the technology-first era that lasted well into the 1980s. Traditionalists loathed (and still do) this movement's squeaky clean methods and high-tech wine weaponry, such as cool night-harvesting in hot wine regions, mechanical harvesting, cold settling of juice prior to fermentation, inoculating flavour-dominant yeast strains plus cold fermentation and skin contact between grapes and juice.

Flying winemakers have been prime forces in this age. Indeed the sterile, cool, anaerobic winemaking conditions were and still are essential to producing fine wines in hot, "new-world" wine countries such as Australia, California and South Africa.

Since then the 1990s have seen a return to the vineyard. Once slaves to technology alone, the more broad-minded of the younger generation of winemakers have gone back to the land and vine for their inspiration. Key words in their language include clonal selection, vineyard spacing, canopy management, grafting, root stock and vine nurseries. The most advanced of these winemakers and viticulturists have built with such success on their foundation through technology alone that they are now precisely matching uncharted new-world wine territory with grape variety.

Top new-world wine marriages since the 1970s have included New Zealand's stony-soil South Island Marlborough region with the Sauvignon grape and the Médoc's red grapes matched to the revered cigar-shaped red soil strip of Coonawarra in South Australia.

Widely acclaimed now, these new-world classics are likely to be joined by other marriages of specific grape varieties with new-world soil by the year 2000.

Terroir, which until now was a distinct French notion that soil, aspect, climate and grape variety are the key elements to fine wine production — and not the vinification and cellar techniques — could become an important new-world wine issue. The answer may be the best of both schools.

So which are the wine-producing countries to watch for if you want to continue to drink well and cheaply in the 1990s?

Regions such as Bordeaux, Burgundy, Beaujolais and Champagne are poorly performing, overpriced and backward-looking. But France is still in vogue in new-wave wine areas such as Languedoc Roussillon, that vast southern French vineyard that follows the Mediterranean coast. Adjacent Gascony has fallen from grace of late, particularly through the humdrum white *Vins de Pays des Côtes de Gascogne*, and I would not single out the Loire either as a great 1990s wine source: better, estate-bottled *Muscadet* in particular looks expensive at £5 plus.

Germany, despite the much heralded Riesling revival and its better estate-bottled wines, does not seem a natural 1990s wine source. But this is principally, I suspect, because new-wave wine techniques have yet to make an impact there. Flying winemakers' offerings, such as the sub-£4 Safeway bottlings by Hugh Ryman, and Kym Milne's Sainsbury's Riesling, prove that there is an alternative to Liebfraumilch and the like.

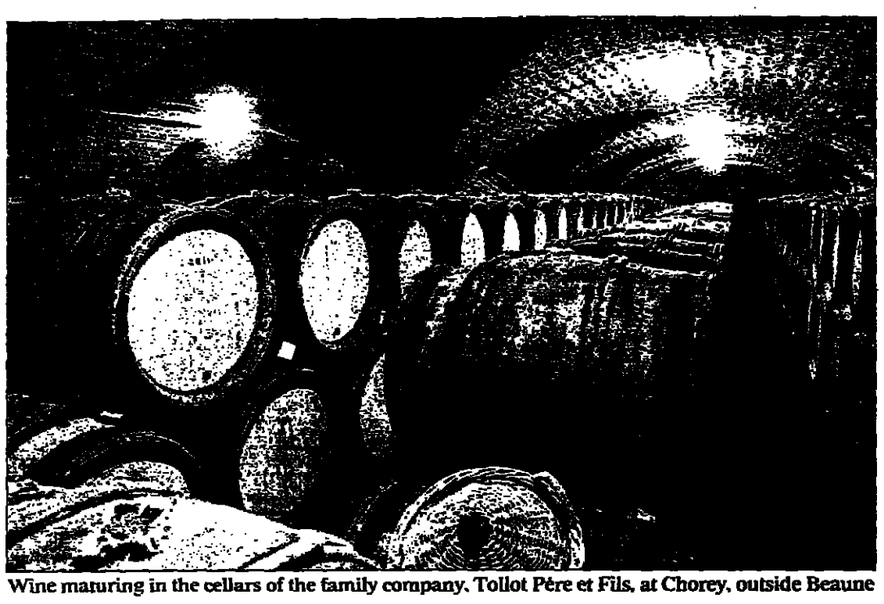
Italy still has heaps of untapped wine potential, as do Spain and Portugal. Flying winemakers have made some stunning wines here, so look out for Geoff Merrill's splendid Italian range and Hugh Ryman's fruit-laden Santara selection plus Peter Bright's elegant Portuguese blends for Sainsbury's.

Eastern Europe continues to be in the frame. Bulgaria's indifferent party bottles have bowed out, but Hungary and Moldova's juicy varietals show the way and the former's once-great Tokay with new investment and plant has already produced some impressive 1990s vintages.

Closer to home, England has recently made some good clean whites and reds, and more can be expected here by the end of the decade.

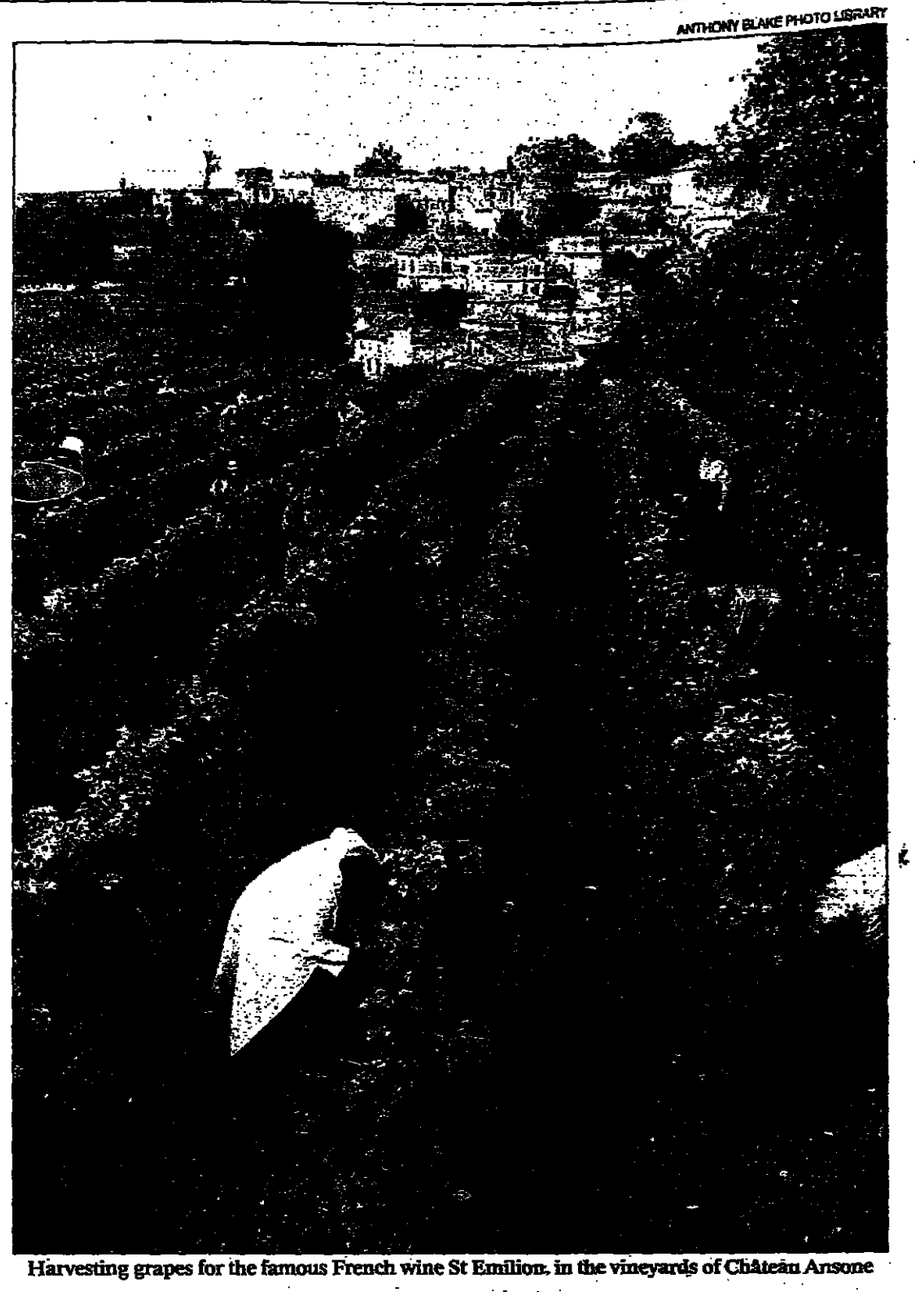
The new-world wine countries continue apace. The Ar. .odes and its wines deservedly can do no wrong in wine drinkers' minds, and since sanctions were lifted in 1993, South African wines have become acceptable again. Look out for good cheap Cape whites in particular.

South American wines have improved by leaps and bounds, and now that more Californian wineries understand how important £4.99 and even £3.99-priced West Coast wines are in Britain, they will also provide some exciting reds and whites. Best of all, the focus on terroir will bring a greater awareness of unsung, often indigenous varieties. So expect Pinotage from the Cape, Torrontes from South America, Periquita from Portugal and more. The best is yet to come.



Wine maturing in the cellars of the family company, Tollot Père et Fils, at Chorey, outside Beaune

ANTHONY BLAKE PHOTO LIBRARY



Harvesting grapes for the famous French wine St Emilion, in the vineyards of Château Ansone

Make the falling £ go further

Spain, Portugal and Italy have some bargain-priced wines to offer

After a decade in which market share has steadily filtered toward "upstart" wine producers in far-flung climes on distant continents, Old World countries producing wines considered classics are further handicapped this year by currency movements.

One leading traditional wine merchant issuing its 1995-96 list last week accompanied it with an announcement that the prices of all French wines in the list were already out of date.

Adam Brett-Smith, Messrs Corney & Barrow's managing director, said that he considered it more honest to apply the 20p surcharge per bottle in this fashion, to make it clear to customers that it had been forced upon him.

With the franc down to 7.85 to the pound, French *vins de pays* which were last year selling well from supermarket shelves at £2.99 a bottle or less were suddenly catapulted over the psychologically important £3-a-bottle barrier. Two thirds of the wines sold from supermarkets, which now command three-fifths of the wine retail market in Britain, are priced at under £3, but the typical price for French *vins de pays* is now suddenly £3.29. Unlike Corney & Barrow and other traditional merchants, the supermarkets can and do revise prices on a daily basis. Is it, then, still worth paying the extra for French and German wines? The answer is still yes, if the wines are the best available at their prevailing price, because centuries of tradition and expertise are not easily overtaken either by *parvenu* imitations or by the whimsies of international currency exchange.

> French country wines have jumped the £3 barrier

Many of the best wines available today still come from France and Germany, and it is worth remembering that Spain, Portugal and Italy, where currencies have depreciated in line with or even faster than sterling, have some undervalued wines to offer at prices that are still wholly advantageous.

The French wines which I consider likely to prove worth their augmented price include *vins de pays* from the Ardèche, the Pays d'Oc, or Vaucluse, and reputable versions of *vins de pays* from any of the many Midi *appellations* bearing the name of any grape varietal (such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Chardonnay or Viognier) that you favour.

Higher in the French hierarchy, *appellations* I particularly favour and recommend include, for palatable whites, Côtes de Gascogne, Côtes de Thongue, Mâcon-Villages, Pinot Blanc d'Alsace (my house white of choice), Sauvignon de Touraine, and St-Véran.

For light reds I still buy and enjoy the 1993 vintage of Beaujolais-Villages or Bergerac, and of Bordeaux satellites such as Côtes de Blaye, and Côtes de Castillon. For gutsier reds you will find solid value in 1993 Corbières, Côtes de Ventoux, Côtes du Roussillon, St-Chinian, Madiran, Minervois, Côtes du Rhône, Gigondas, and Vacqueyras.

Germany is a special case. Its reputation has been depreciated in the eyes of serious wine drinkers by the overcropping of grapes to market vast quantities of over-sweetened lolly water, and concentrating too much attention on generally fruitless efforts to imitate the drier wine styles of other countries. The Germans have let their classic wines drift almost outside the realms of public acquaintance.

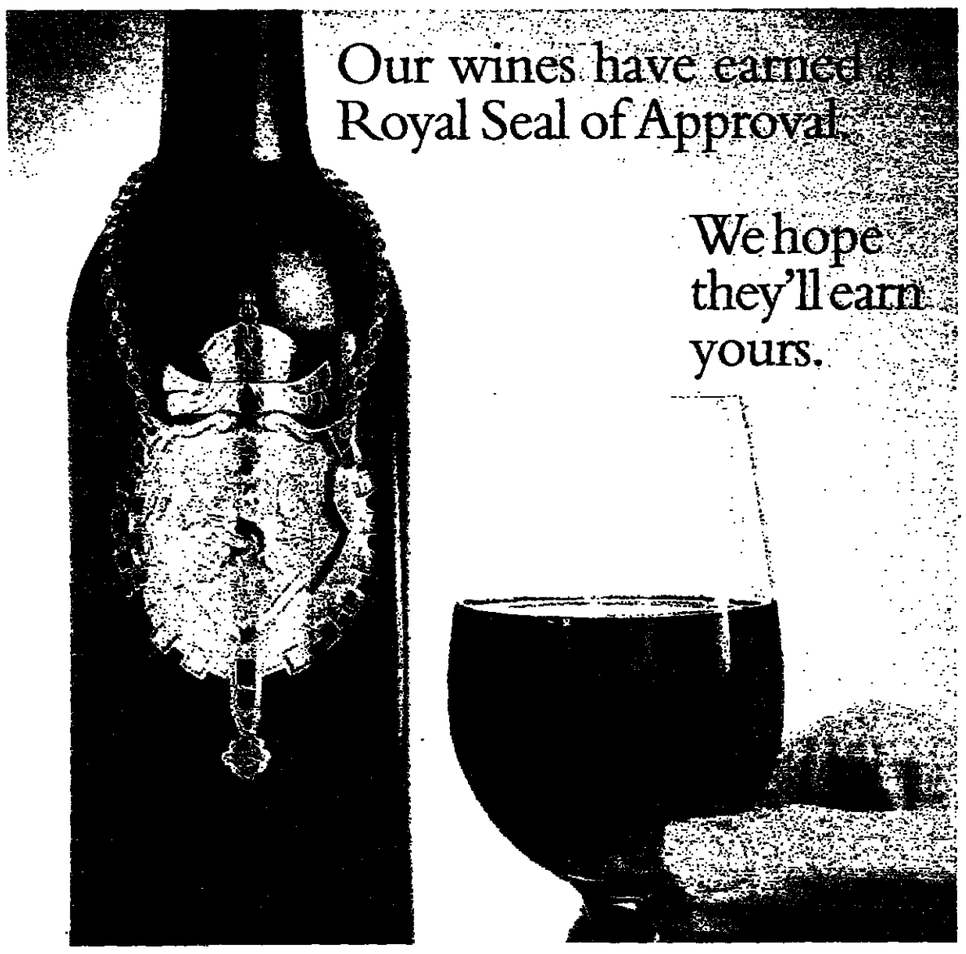
If I want to amaze wine novices these days, I serve them a lightly chilled classic German Riesling from one of the few remaining fastidious producers. Expensive (little of real class is to be found under £7.50), but worth it for the steely sharpness, the elegance, the perfect balance, and the subtle delight that one simply does not find elsewhere.

Italy, by contrast, is a happy hunting ground. Traps abound, no doubt, because Italians seem to make rules solely for the delight of breaking them, but with the aid of a sound retailer's buying team, the winelover should find ample satisfaction from Vernaccia di San Gimignano (my favourite Italian white), Dolcetto (a sturdy, highly enjoyable red), 1990 Chiantis, and lesser known names such as Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Morellino di Scansano, or Salice Salentino. For a light, frivolous summer sparkler, choose Moscato d'Alba. It generally pays to avoid wines the Italians themselves rate highly, as those are likely to be astonishingly overpriced.

From Spain the great values, to my mind, are the chunky red wines of Jumilla and Navarra. The only Spanish whites I much consider are the competitively priced *cavas* from Penedes, a cheap substitute for champagne; but higher in the red hierarchy there are exceptionally fine buys to be had among the 1988, 1989 and 1990 vintages of the Rioja and Ribeiro del Duero.

Portugal had a miserable time in 1993, so its wines are not showing to much advantage, but try old favourites Alentejo, Dão and Bairrada.

ROBIN YOUNG



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He was endorsing our commitment to produce wines of genuine nobility, outstanding in their consistent standards of excellence.

But we realise we still have to earn the approbation of another equally discerning palate.

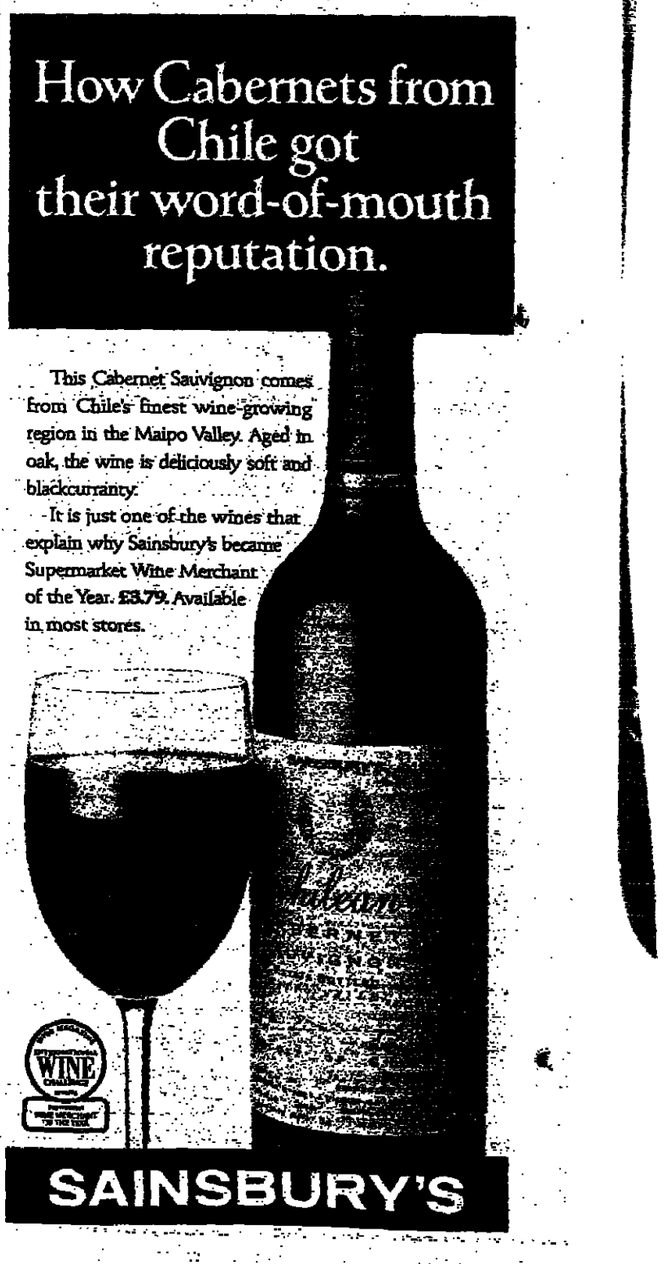
Yours.

So, as you can imagine, we'll be just as nervous when you take your first sip as we were when these regal wines first made their impression on His Majesty.

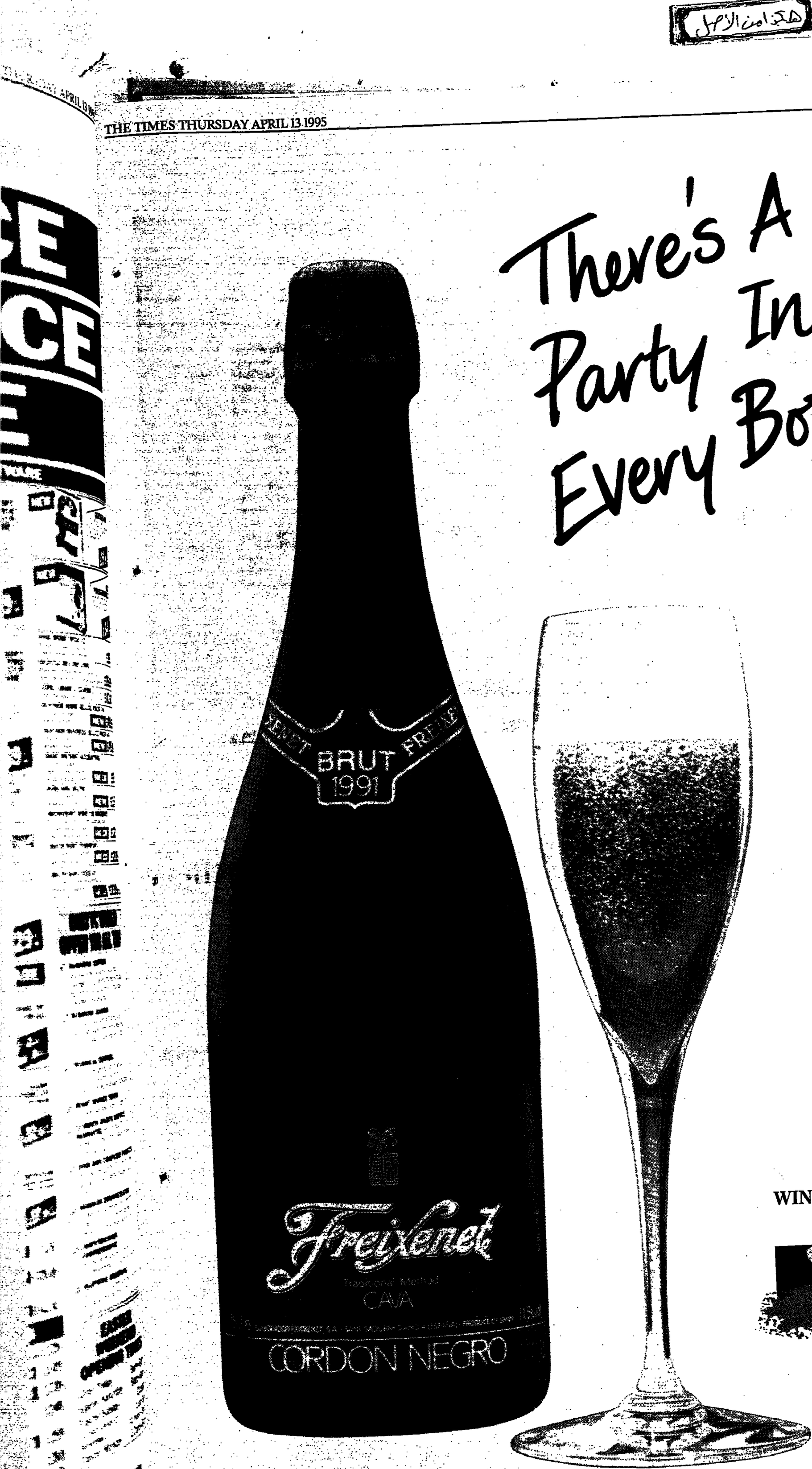
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WINES FROM

SPAIN

The reputation of a winery is all-important in new world wine, says **Robin Young**



Up the creek: Britain's popular Australian Jacob's Creek can be tasted here in the Barossa Valley

Great taste from new vineyards

Wine drinkers over the past two decades have been happy to put into operation George Canning's famous maxim about calling on the new world to redress the balance of the old.

Wines from the Americas and the Antipodes have commanded increasing attention and publicity ever since a famous blind tasting 20 years ago in which a selection of California red wines, led by Stag's Leap Cabernet Sauvignon, were judged to have trounced a phalanx of Bordeaux's top clarets.

Yet the new world, too, is changing. The best bargains, at least among the least expensive wines, no longer come from the new world in any historical or geographical sense, so much as *from a largely forgotten area of the* old world suddenly rediscovered and rejuvenated.

It is the countries of eastern Europe which are best placed to provide the lowest priced wines, even if in most of them the winemaking technology and hygiene lags so far behind that standards can never be taken on trust. The countries whose products are now the keenest rivals for what was until recently Bulgaria's undisputed crown are Moldova and Slovakia, whose rapid improvements deserve support.

While there certainly are among *new world producers, as among* old, "horses for courses", different rules apply in sorting out new *world sheep from goats.*

Particular countries, and geographic regions within them, have proved a recent and peculiar penchant for success with particular wine varieties. The obvious instances include New Zealand's Sauvignon Blanc, Chile's Cabernet Sauvignons, and Washington State Pinot Noirs. Longer established specialities included Australia's sticky Muscats and California's possibly native Zinfandels from valleys such as Napa and Sonoma.

Yet *throughout the new world it* is not so much the name of the wine region or appellation that is the most vital piece of information. What one really needs to have the measure of is the reputation of the particular winery. When you have identified an outperforming wine company, it is more than likely that you will be pleased with all of its products, whereas those that do poorly with some wines are all too *likely to fail to satisfy with any.*

Australia has built up an enviable domination of the British market for wines priced between £3 and £4.50, and the identities of many of the country's most dependable producers have as a result become household names.

Among those still worth following are Berry Estates, Brown Brothers, Cape Mentelle, Hardy's, Lindemans, Mitchelton, Orlando, Rosemount, and Rothbury Estate. You are also always likely to get *value for money from such old-*established companies as Penfolds, Seppelt and Tyrrells.

New Zealand equivalents, though generally pricier, have top-flight Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay champagne-method fizz and intense, ripe reds from a successful 1994 vintage to offer. Names to hunt include Montana, by far the country's largest producer, Cloudy Bay, whose Sauvignon Blanc is *available on limited allocation* only, is its most cultish, Morton Estate is good across the board, and *Martinborough Vineyard is* New Zealand's most adventurous.

In California the names to follow include Robert Mondavi, Beringer, Bonny Doon, Kendall-Jackson, and Monterey, but it is worth bearing in mind, too, that California wine does not always have to be Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Chardonnay or Sauvignon.

Some of the best surprises are to be found among California's more esoteric or *under-appreciated* varietals, such as Chenin Blanc, Alicante, Grenache, Mourvedre, and Petite Sirah. My favourite producer in the United States' other most important wine-producing area, the Pacific north-west, is Château Ste-Michelle.

In South America, Argentina seems set to overhaul Chile as the outperforming producer of the red wines for which the continent seems best suited. Concha y Toro, Los Vascos, Errazuriz and *Undurraga still produce good and* reasonably priced Chilean wines, but many companies seem to have diluted their product to take advantage of over-enthusiastic press coverage in other quarters.

The leading Argentine producers, who may be about to teach them a lesson for such overreaching greed, include Bodegas Weinert, Etchart, and Trapiche, the quality end of the country's biggest wine producer, Peñaflor.

South Africa is re-emerging as a *force in the new world, but the* country's wine establishment is some way from shaking off the *effects of a long and harmful* isolation. Look for the wines of Hamilton Russell Vineyards for proof of what can be done in the way of world-class quality from that quarter, and note that Claridge is a newer winery producing wines which have the stunning vibrancy one hopes for from the best new-world winemakers.

Finally, since I have made the *point that new-world wines can* come from some rather old-world places, let a very honourable commendation *go to the Golan Heights* Winery, Israel's leading quality-wine producer.

California technique is there married to kosher regulations to produce some truly excellent results, especially for its top-of-the-range Yarden labels.

Small vineyards can now call in flying winemakers

Around the world in four seasons

Jetting round the world, making wine in, conceivably, as many as six different countries each year, sounds a glamorous occupation. The reality for flying winemakers is hard physical work in strange, ill-equipped locations with little sleep and a workforce that does not speak their language.

Yet these jet-setting flying wine doctors relish the unique worldwide vintage experience their job brings them and the opportunity to see their name on a myriad of UK high-street wine labels.

The 1995-96 flying winemakers' year will probably begin in August in somewhere like California, harvesting perhaps early white sparkling wine varietals, before moving east to Europe for a lengthy vintage session that could end in Germany with late-harvested November grapes. With the northern hemisphere well wrapped up by early December, flying winemakers have earned their Christmas break before the process starts all over again in January with the first of the southern hemisphere's grapes — for example, white varieties in South Africa.

The flying winemaker phenomenon would not have got off the ground were it not for the convenient difference between the northern hemisphere's usual harvest month of October and the southern hemisphere's equivalent, March.

Timing is all in a flying winemaker's schedule and his input can only ever stretch over a few weeks before it's departure time again. In practice, this means flying in several weeks before harvest, dictating exactly when, how, and in what order the grapes are to be picked, concurrent with a thorough clean of the winery, or corner of the winery, and then supervision of vinification, maturation and bottling. Frequently, the last two processes demand a second visit.

I first met a flying winemaker in California in 1985, when an Australian was squeezing in an American autumn vintage before winging back home to tackle his own Antipodean gr es in February. However, it was not until two years later that Tony Laithwaite of Bordeaux Direct sent a small team of Australian winemakers to two southern French co-operatives specifically to vinify a range of "flying winemaker" varietal wines for *The Sunday Times* Wine Club that the concept was officially born. These startlingly clean 1987s were not particularly impressive but the following year's more characterful 1988s were.


Hard work: Jacques Lurton of France

Mr Laithwaite's imported southern French crew swiftly discovered that long hours and hygiene, and lots of both, was their best foreign winery weapon. Other flying winemaker obsessions include high-tech winemaking methods such as cold fermentation; the use of modern, inoculated yeast strains plus enzymes; oak chips, not barrels, to finish off with, and mobile bottling lines that can be shifted from one winery to another.

Flying winemakers' business works best with poorly equipped areas that produce large quantities of cheap, probably quite ordinary, grapes. South west France has plenty of these as does Iberia, Italy, eastern Europe, South America and South Africa.

Australian, or Australia-trained winemakers, dominate the flying winemaker field and many were trained in that Adelaide hills oenological-finishing-school-cum-winery, Petaluma.

The two most famous and well-travelled flying winemakers are England's Hugh Ryman and Jacques Lurton from France. Both went to Bordeaux University but finished their studies in Australia. Hugh Ryman at Petaluma. Ryman claims that his time spent at Petaluma was the most formative of his long training, and where he learnt that "what you taste in the grape, you must keep in the juice and then in the wine".

Ryman now makes almost one million cases of wine each year in places such as France, Spain, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Chile and California. Lurton has made wine in Italy, France, Spain, Argentina, Australia and South Africa and probably produces slightly fewer cases than Ryman annually.

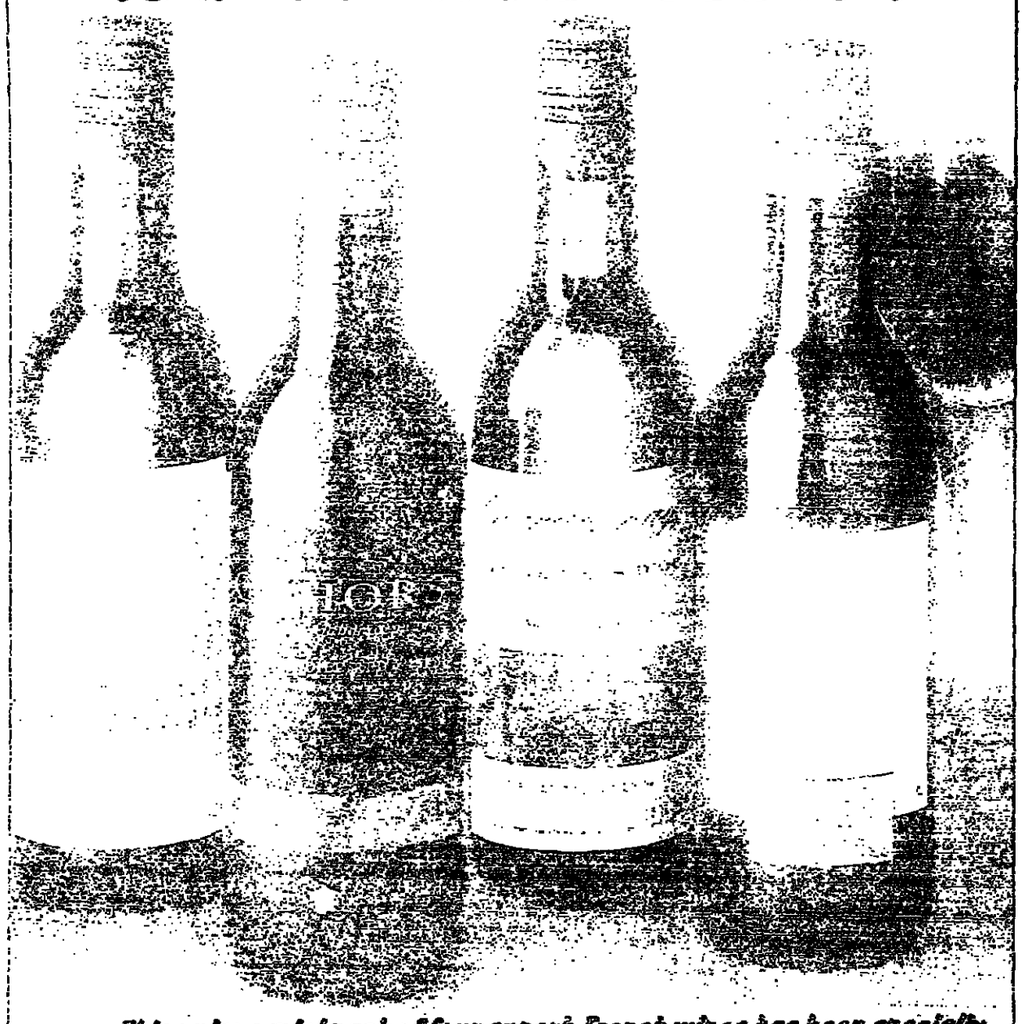
Neither, however, would consider catching a plane if they had not already pre-priced and pre-sold, the wine they were about to make. This explains why Ryman, Lurton and other flying winemakers' bottles go on sale here at precisely those vital UK price points of £2.99, £3.99 and £4.99.

Yet there are two current drawbacks to their trade: a slight tendency to produce neutral wines that could come from anywhere and a reluctance to use indigenous, local grape varieties instead of the current commercially successful six: chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon, sauvignon blanc, merlot, semillon and syrah.

When these problems are overcome, the sky's the limit.

JANE MACQUITTY

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POCKET THE DIFFERENCE

GERRIT BUNTROCK/ANTHONY BLAKE


News of superb vintages from the Moselle, above; Rhine or Franconia would have raised no eyebrows in days gone by

Seek the expert's advice

A generation of British people have no idea of the magnificence of Germany's white wines

It may come as a surprise to discover that in recent years most of the best wine in Europe has been made in Germany. *Wine* magazine compiles regular vintage charts for all the important wine regions of Europe and the new world. Between 1988 and 1993 German wines, divided into ten categories, averaged more than eight out of ten. Burgundy scored 7.5, Bordeaux and the Loire 6.0 and 6.5, and Sauternes 5.

There has indeed been a series of remarkable vintages in Germany. Excellent Auslesen and Beerenauslesen from 1983 and 1985 still need *keeping, and then along came* 1988 which some thought might become the vintage of the century. Until, that is, the 1988s were eclipsed by the 1989s which in turn could not compare to the 1990s: *Wine* awards the 1990s seven tens and three nines.

News of great wine from the Moselle, the Rhine or Franconia would have raised no eyebrows in earlier generations. In 1925, Berry Bros & Rudd offered an Ockfener Geisberger from the legendary 1921 vintage at 50p a bottle, compared to 35p for a 1920 Château Lafite. Another 1921 Moselle fetched £1.50 against 87p for an 1899 Château Latour.

But for three or four decades now we have been flooded with the dreaded Liebfraumilch. Germany has certainly succeeded in establishing a market in mass-produced, low-priced wines, and Liebfraumilch remains the UK's best-selling wine year in year out. This means that a generation of English people have no idea how magnificent the white wines from Germany can be.

The trade, from high street multiple retailer to specialist independent merchant, is trying to do something about this. Waitrose Direct, for instance, through Findlater Mackie Todd, is continuing an initiative launched last year with its mixed case of fine German Riesling at £72. You also get *A Short Guide to German Wines*, a handy booklet produced by the German Wine Information Service.

Riesling is certainly an extraordinary grape, capable of *amazing diversity. There will* be a Riesling wine to suit almost any adjective you care to use — dry, sweet, crisp, fruity and so on. It dominates the steep, slate hillsides of the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, the most beautiful wine-growing valleys of the world whose white wines, according to Stuart Pigott in *Life Beyond Liebfraumilch* are among the greatest in Europe. No less an authority than the *Oxford Companion to Wine* acknowledges the claim that it may be the finest white grape variety of all.

Less well known in this country is Silvaner, prominent in Franconia where the Frankenwein classically comes in flask bottles, known as *Bocksbeutel*. This is delightful stuff, but you may have to take a holiday in Wurzburg or Bamberg to get it as the locals seem to drink it all.

As the temperature also moves towards the eighties (hopefully) there are sound reasons for exploring German wines, and not only because of the wonderful recent vintages and as a welcome change from the ubiquitous Chardonnay. They go well with picnic food, and are often far lighter in alcohol, 8-9 per cent for instance, than most other European wines. Gewurztraminers, from Alsace ideally but a German grape, are especially good with savoury or spicy foods.

There are a couple of disadvantages, of course. The exchange rate is not in the habit of moving in Britain's favour, so you won't find great German wines at rock bottom prices. And because of their relative unfamiliarity it is not always easy to get proper advice. It is improbable that the average inhabitant of an off-licence knows anything at all about German wines, so you should seek a specialist faster than you can say Trockenbeerenauslese.

Any long-established firm should do — Berry Bros or Justerini and Brooks, for example — and there are individual specialists. Freddy Price is an independent wine consultant and importer who handles seven estates from all Germany's wine regions, the Rheingau, Rheinpfalz, Nahe, Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, Franconia and so on. Many of these are historic vineyards, such as the Juliusspital at Wurzburg, the Max Ferd Richter properties in the Mosel, and the Anheuser estates at Bad Kreuznach.

You need such an enthusiast to lead you through the various styles from Kabinett to Auslese, from everyday drinking wines to the extraordinary Eiswein, intensely sweet collectors' items at well over £50 a bottle. Freddy Price's portfolio covers the whole field, at prices in the £5-£15 range.

JOHN GRAHAM

● *Waitrose Direct: 0181-543 0966. German Wine Information Service: 262a Fulham Road, London SW10 9EL, 0171-376 3329. Freddy Price: 48 Castlebar Road, London, W5 2DD, 0181-997 7889; fax 0181-991 5178.*

هذا من الاهرام

No charges for making changes

AIR FRANCE's new and flexible "Tempo Challenge" fare is aimed at budget-minded executives flying to Paris from London, Birmingham, Manchester or Edinburgh. Passengers can make changes without penalty and the return fare prices range between £215 (from London) to £332 (from Edinburgh). Details: 0181-742 6600.

☐ JERSEY European Airways has brought in a £195 family fare between Stansted and Belfast. The price covers return travel for two adults and two children. Additional children cost £40, and the ticket has no advance-booking or minimum-stay restriction. Details: 0345 676676.

☐ VIRGIN Atlantic City Jet has a useful £159 return Executive Leisure fare between London City and Dublin. There is a two-night minimum stay restriction, but this need not include a Saturday. Details: 01293-747146.

☐ THE Travel Bug is marketing discontinued first and business-class fares flying Air India to Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta. It is charging flat fares of £1,289 return for first class (normally £3,323) and £859 (normally £2,074) for business class. Details: 0161-740 8998.

☐ TRAVEL Warehouse has an economy fare which allows travellers to include both Bangkok and Singapore on the same trip. The deal, which is based on flying Finnair via Helsinki, costs £550. Passengers can depart either Heathrow or Manchester. Details: 0171-414 8808.

☐ A new series of "Discover Malaysia" airpasses are ideal for exploring Malaysia. Priced at between £62 and £125, each airpass provides up to five domestic flights covering the various Malaysian states. Details: 0181-740 2626.

☐ BRITISH Airways and Air India have brought in a novel "triangle fare", allowing passengers to visit both South Africa and India on the same trip. The new ticket costs £1,250 and passengers must spend between 14 and 90 days away from the UK. Typical routing: London-Johannesburg-Bombay-London. Details: 0181-897 4000.

☐ INTER-CITY West Coast is tackling airlines with an attractive Scottish Executive Ticket. Costing between £180 and £195, it includes first-class rail travel from London to any station in Scotland, plus seat or sleeper reservations and meal vouchers. Details: 0800-450450.

☐ TRAVELLERS flying to the Polish city of Krakow face lengthy delays between now and the end of October. The airport is closed for runway repairs and all flights are being diverted to nearby Katowice. Although the airlines are laying on Katowice-Krakow bus transfers, the diversion will extend your journey time by three hours.

☐ BUSINESS class passengers and frequent-flyer members flying KLM between Heathrow, Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Eindhoven now have access to Terminal Four's "Fast Track" system, with its expedited handling of passport and security checks.

☐ FRENCH airline Air Liberté, which flies between Gatwick and Paris-Orly, has a low business-class fare of £180 return which also includes a free ticket for the Gatwick Express train from Victoria station. Details from 0345228899.

☐ PRE-BOOK your space at Gatwick's long-term NCP car park and you benefit from discounted rates of up to 20 per cent, plus commission-free foreign currency and travellers cheques. Details: 0800-128128.

☐ YOU can save both your time and your temper if staying at an Inter-Continental hotel in Frankfurt or Berlin and flying home with Lufthansa. Provided you have only hand baggage you can check in at the Lufthansa counter within the hotel.

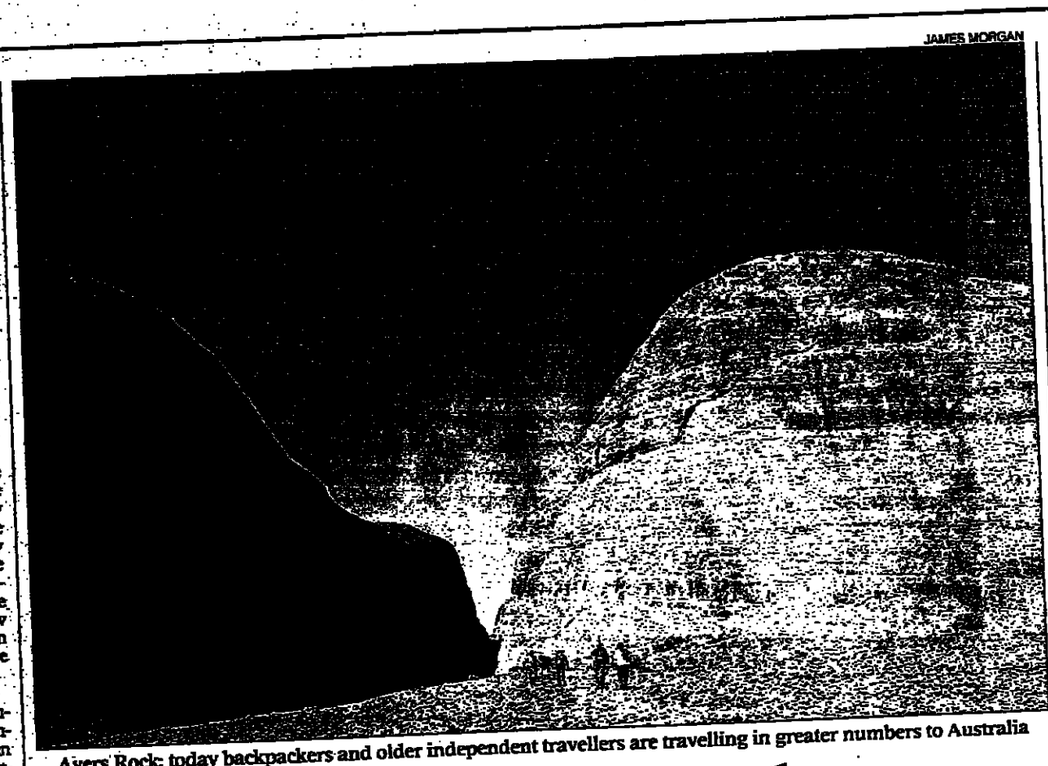
☐ HUNGARIAN airline Malev is offering a special £565 day return business-class fare between Heathrow and Budapest. Flight schedules allow a stay of up to six hours in downtown Budapest. Details: 0171-439 0577.

☐ AUSTRIA'S Lauda Air has introduced a new service between Manchester and Milan's Malpensa airport. Although Malpensa is further out of town than Linate (the main airport), it is more convenient for towns and cities across the nearby Swiss border. Details: 0800-767737.

BARGAIN OF THE WEEK

TWO executives can visit the US for the price of one when booking a business-class ticket with Continental Airlines from Gatwick to New York and/or Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Boston, Chicago, Washington DC, Baltimore and Philadelphia. Details 0800-747800.

JAMES MORGAN



Ayers Rock: today backpackers and older independent travellers are travelling in greater numbers to Australia

Australia beckons

Harvey Elliott on a boom in new kinds of tourist going down under

Australia is losing its image as the "once in a lifetime" destination for friends and relations to visit. Young backpackers and an increasing number of independent older and wealthier package holidaymakers are heading for the Antipodes.

Ten years ago, fewer than 5 per cent of visitors to Australia were classed as "pure holidaymakers" and almost everyone stayed with friends or relations. Last year, according to the travel company Austravel — which specialises in travel to Australia and New Zealand — more than 30 per cent were pure holidaymakers with no family links in the country.

Andrew Bathe, managing director of Austravel, says that the number of British visitors to Australia grew by 10 per cent last year and those heading for New Zealand by 17 per cent. New Zealand now attracts a quarter of all Austravel customers.

"The young backpacker is a very important part of our market," Mr Bathe says. "Backpackers make up 20 per cent of the total market and many are on round-the-world tours after leaving school. They don't book accommodation before they leave but neither do they have friends or relations to visit as many did in the past."

Thomas Cook (01733 335524) says that there has been "an explosion in the Australian package holiday market" in the past 18 months. More than half the company's 40,000 customers who go to Australia or New Zealand are now pure holidaymakers.

"The growth in charter flights combined with very keen package prices has produced substantial increases in holidaymakers who are visiting a destination which had previously been reserved for families and friends or an unusual luxury holiday which few could afford," a company spokesman says.

British Airways Holidays included Australia and New Zealand in its brochures for the first time last year. "There has been an enormous interest from people who do not want to be "packaged" but want to put together their own itinerary, mixing and matching the places they want to visit," Derek Shanks, worldwide marketing manager, says.

"Our customers tend to be over 45 and want a two or three-centre stay in Australia with a stop-over in the Far East before visiting Sydney, Ayers Rock and the Great Barrier Reef."

BA Holidays (01293 544747) believes that only 40 per cent of visitors are visiting friends and relations. Many of these, however, only stay for a week with families and then head off independently for the rest of the holiday, which often lasts for at least four weeks.

The cost of travelling to Australia can vary. The lead in price from Austravel, flying for 27 hours on a Britannia charter jet via Sharjah and Singapore, is £499 return between January and February next year. A typical BA Holidays package including five nights in Sydney, two nights at Ayers Rock and seven nights in Cairns with a one-night stop-over in Asia, is £1,299 between now and June 2. Austravel also has 14 nights at the Cairns Colonial Club from £899. A business-class scheduled return between London and Sydney on Singapore Airlines from now until June 2 costs £1,799 and a first-class return with Qantas is £4,259.

Austravel (0171-734 7755) has launched *Guide to Down Under* — a 48-page holiday and fare guide containing information from seating space on major airlines to fastest flying time and seasonal guide to the best prices.

Despite the big growth in the number of British tourists they represent only the third largest group to visit Australia. Out of 1.17 million visitors who arrived last year, 21.8 per cent were from Japan, 15.4 per cent from New Zealand and 10 per cent from Britain.

Water turned on for Easter

Spanish resorts are hit by drought and Canadians wishing to visit them held up by visa restrictions

Holidaymakers who are heading for drought-stricken Spain this Easter weekend should be prepared for water shortages around the holiday period, with those staying at private villas more likely to be affected than those booking into hotels and apartments.

The authorities on the Costa del Sol, the worst hit area, have promised, however, that water supplies will be left on for Easter and rationing reintroduced afterwards. Up to this week, water on the Costa del Sol has been cut for 16 hours a day, with the cities of Malaga, Granada and Seville also suffering.

"There will be no restrictions over Easter," Francisco Mena, director of the Costa del Sol's Hotels Association, promised yesterday. "We have suffered cuts each night because so much water is leaking out of the old supply pipes but the water will be left on this weekend."

He said that many hotels had now fitted water-saving devices to showers and WCs. Since 1960, hotels and holiday apartment blocks have had to incorporate water tanks capable of holding three days' supply. But as in Portugal, the growth of the tourist industry has outpaced the infrastructure which supports it, with the situation now aggravated by four years of drought.

Dams in southern Spain are only 12 per cent full. Jose Borrell, the minister for public works and transport, admits that two thirds of Spain's water supply system is between 90 and 200 years old, with up to 40 per cent of the water lost through leaks.

Antonio Molina, president of the water authority in Malaga province, said yesterday that £36 million is being spent on an emergency plan for the Costa del Sol, bringing new supplies of water from boreholes in the mountains near Cadiz.

Last year farmers lost 500 million pounds worth of crops in Andalucia because of the drought. Golf courses can only use recycled water, forcing municipalities that still pour raw sewage into the Mediterranean finally to consider water-treatment plants.

This week the other badly hit area, the holiday island of Majorca, started importing water by tanker from the Ebro delta on the Spanish mainland. Neither the Costa Blanca nor the Canary Islands report water shortages.

EDWARD OWEN



No go area

SPAIN HAS defended its policy of turning away Canadian visitors who do not have tourist visas. Families continued to arrive at airports, unaware of the new rule, *Marianne Curphey writes.*

A spokesman for the Spanish tourist office in London said the situation had been unforeseeable. "We cannot state how long this measure will be enforced. It was not possible to give much prior warning."

One Canadian family were told this week they would not be refunded in full after having being turned away at East Midlands airport two days after the new visa law was introduced on April 1, as a result of the fishing dispute between Canada and Spain.

Gisele Angel, her husband Harry, and their two young children had tried to check in on a flight to Gran Canaria only to be told they could not travel without the new three-month visitor's visa. Mrs Angel, 34, who lives in Shepshed, Leicestershire, said she had not been informed of the rule and would have been unable to obtain a visa in time because the changes had been introduced over a weekend when visa offices were closed. Last week a Canadian family living in the Cotswolds were ordered to get back on their plane and return to Britain by officials in Las Palmas airport.

The Association of British Travel Agents reiterated its criticism of the Spanish decision. Keith Betton, its spokesman, said Abta had tried to contact as many people as it could to warn them of the changes.

"No one from the Spanish Embassy told us or other travel agents of the new law," he said. "Holidaymakers who have not been allowed to fly should demand compensation from Spain. It is unreasonable and unfair to hold families to ransom over such an issue."

Problems on the new turn-up-and-go system should be largely over

Easter test for Shuttle

Passengers travelling with cars to France on Le Shuttle trains may have to wait up to one and a half hours if they arrive during the peak morning period of 9am and 10am under the new turn-up-and-go system this weekend.

A spokeswoman for the Shuttle said a wait of more than an hour was normal "during busy periods". Le Shuttle aims to run two trains an hour for Easter and is optimistic that problems caused when the turn-up-and-go system was first introduced last month have been ironed out.

She added: "The delays happened in March when on one day we had a combination of people who had booked tickets and those who had just turned up. There were unhappy customers then, but we feel that now that no one is able to book in advance, those problems will not occur again." Nevertheless, families arriving by car at Folkestone for the popular 10am departure may still find they have to wait.

Agents for the Eurostar train — which had a set-back yesterday morning when hundreds of travellers were stranded for about three hours after a train became entangled in overhead power wires in Kent — say that it has sold up to 95 per cent of seats on the three-hour London to Paris route for the holiday weekend.

A spokesman said a few places remained but passengers without tickets should check availability (0181-784 1333) before setting out. Some seats are still available on the less popular London to Brussels route.

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THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY APRIL 13 1995

NEWS

Court lifts animal trade ban

■ Exports of live calves and lambs to the Continent are to resume at Britain's busiest ferry port next week after a High Court ruling that bans imposed by harbours and airports were an illegal capitulation to mob rule.

In a landmark judgment, the court told Dover Harbour Board, Plymouth City Council and Coventry Airport that they had no right to refuse to handle — or seek to stop — a lawful trade, even if many people thought it immoral .....Page 1

Teachers threaten summer strikes

■ State schools face a summer of disruption after traditionally moderate teachers voted to allow ballots for strikes against large classes. The Association of Teachers and Lecturers, angered by threatened job losses, advised members to refuse to take charge of classes with more than 31 pupils ..... Pages 1, 6

Eurostar breakdown

Hundreds of London-bound passengers were stranded on a Eurostar train for four hours after its overhead power arm ripped down live cables a mile from the Tunnel ..... Page 1

Portillo attack

Michael Portillo began a fresh assault against Brussels claiming that a three-year plan to strengthen workers' rights would threaten British jobs and put up costs ..... Page 2

Rape damages

A woman was awarded £50,000 damages by a jury which decided she had been raped by her former employer, even though the Crown Prosecution Service declined to press charges ..... Page 1

Internet 'racism'

The Internet is giving extremists "a previously undreamed of possibility" for spreading racist and anti-semitic propaganda, a conference was told ..... Page 7

Legal surprise

The Vice President of the Law Society surprised the legal establishment by withdrawing his name as a presidential candidate following allegations of sexual harassment ..... Page 1

Dole wobbles

Robert Dole's presidential campaign developed a serious wobble over his promise to try to repeal last year's ban on assault weapons in the United States ...Page 8

Fish war deadlock

The European Union failed to break the deadlock in the quarrel with Canada over fish catches in the North Atlantic ..... Page 2

Bosnian snub

A major in the Bosnian Serb army cancelled a flight meant to carry diplomats on a peace mission to Sarajevo ..... Page 9

Murder hunt

Janet Brown, whose handcuffed and naked body was found in her isolated home, had been beaten five times on the back of the head with a weapon believed to be a crowbar or a jemmy ..... Page 3

Nuclear promise

Britain is expected to announce next week an end to the production of weapons-grade nuclear material as part of a policy decision to demonstrate the Government's commitment to disarmament ..... Page 10

Doctor's damages

A gynaecologist who said his career had been destroyed after he was falsely accused of sexual harassment by two midwives won £45,000 damages ..... Page 5

Home on the range

An influx of more than a million cattle herded by Rwanda's Tutsi refugees returning home after 36 years in exile threatens to overwhelm the country's largest national park ..... Page 11

Bosnian heart girl goes home

■ A Bosnian girl who has undergone heart surgery in a Scottish hospital will fly back to the war-torn city of Mostar next week. Twelve-year-old Menira Drace, who was born with a hole in her heart and is 3ft tall because of a growth problem, will return to an uncertain future and a partly destroyed flat where she will share a bedroom with her family ..... Page 7



SIMON WALKER

Easter parade: One of a range of hats produced for Easter by Frederick Fox who has been the Queen's milliner for 25 years

BUSINESS

Chrysler: Kirk Kerkorian, 77, the casino billionaire, stunned Wall Street when he proposed a $22.8 billion bid, for Chrysler, the third American car maker .....Page 23

Jobs: Unemployment fell last month the rate of decline appears to be slowing down .....Page 23

Brewing: The Mortlake brewery beside the Thames in west London, one of Britain's biggest and the source of three pints of beer in every hundred drunk across the country, has a new owner .....Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 18.9 points to close at 3209.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 84.5 to 84.3 after falling from $1.5963 to $1.5882 and from DM2.2359 to DM2.2306 .... Page 26

SPORT

Cricket: The English first-class season has a humdrum beginning in Oxford and Cambridge but there remains something reassuringly serene about the ritual ..... Page 40

Rugby union: Dean Richards, who damaged rib cartilages against Scotland last month, has been picked by Leicester for the crucial Courage Clubs Championship meeting with Bath .....Page 41

Tennis: Britain will go into the Davis Cup tie against Slovakia without the players ranked first and second in the country, Jeremy Bates and Mark Petchey ...Page 41

Yachting: *Stars & Stripes* defeated front-running *Young America*, which suffered its second defeat in as many days of the America's Cup defender finals ..... Page 42

Antipodean movies: The main film releases are the Australian melodrama *Muriel's Wedding* and New Zealand's *Once Were Warriors*, about Maoris coming to terms with urban life ..... Page 31

Pearls from Pollini: This month's *Times* CD Direct choice is the great Italian pianist Maurizio Pollini. Four of his finest recordings are available .....Page 33

Shepard's pie: The eagerly awaited new play from Sam Shepard — his first for ten years — turns out to be a diverting but slight thriller about racing .....Page 32

Grilling our leaders: Do conventional political interviews on radio produce more heat than light? Peter Barnard argues the need for greater reflection .....Page 33

Host and hostess: Joanna Pitman meets the air hostess who was ordained a priest, inspired *The Vicar of Dibley*, and now finds herself a reluctant pioneer .....Page 13

Lost luvvie: As Ken Follett is ditched from Tony Blair's inner circle, Anne McElvoy looks at political friendships .....Page 13

Mad, bad world: What is the cause of psychosis? It does not appear to be severe stress, reports Dr Simon Wessely .....Page 12

Liquid assets: A report on the world's wines, including countries which offer bargain prices and regions to watch out for .. Page 18, 20

Dick White: Ronald Payne on the decency of the man who headed both MI5 and MI6 .....Page 34

A Golden Age: J.H. Elliott praises a powerful work in the history of the Dutch Republic .....Page 34

Foreign aid is one of the top items scheduled for the scalpel. And rightly so. Most of the dollars the US has sent abroad have done more harm than good by subsidising corrupt foreign elites

— Wall Street Journal

Arafat must corral his crazies. Israel, meanwhile, must decide whether the Gaza settlements in any way continue to serve its national interests

— Los Angeles Times



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **LAND OF HOPE** Ruth Gledhill talks to Dr David Hope as he prepares to become Archbishop of York

■ **TAKE IT AWAY** Caitlin Moran's ideal compilation tape to help survive Easter in a caravan



Preview: The sometimes incomprehensible Scots comedian Gregor Fisher has solved the problem in his new series, *The Baldy Man* (ITV, 8.30pm) by making it dialogue-free. **Review:** Peter Barnard thought parts of *Sharpe's Gold* somewhat far-fetched but found the hero enjoyable to watch ....Page 43

With strings attached

Russia needs the IMF not despite but because of the conditions attached to the loan ..... Page 15

Answer the question

For parents, the prospect of another summer of classroom disruption must be dismaying ..... Page 15

Spain's trawlers

By its "citizen's arrest" of the *Estai*, Canada has drawn our attention to the unconscionable state of international law ..... Page 15

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Roughly speaking, my attitude towards Anna Ford is the one that Edmund Burke thought that the people of France ought to adopt towards Marie Antoinette. "I thought ten thousand swords must have leapt from their scabards to avenge even a look that threatened her with insult" ..... Page 14

NORMAN LAMONT

We cannot continue going to intergovernmental conferences and accepting institutions and procedures that increase pressures for a federal Europe. We need proposals to change the nature of the European Union by giving the national Parliaments a new role ..... Page 14

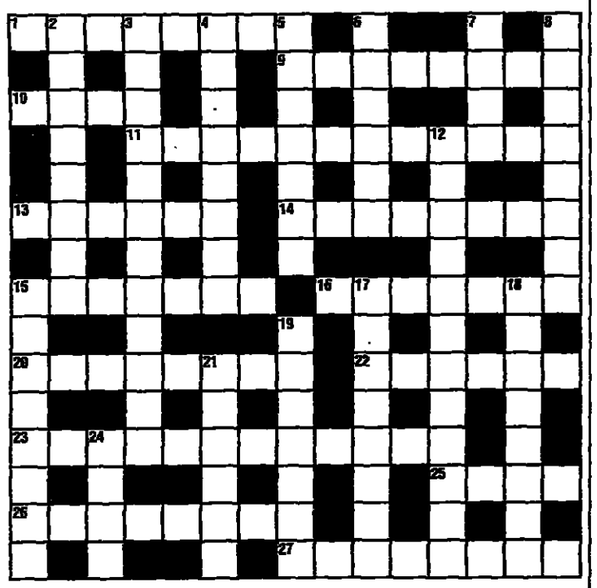
JANET DALEY

Schools testing and league tables are at last reinstating measurable achievement as the chief purpose of schooling ..... Page 14

Frank Sanderson, construction company executive; Günter Guillaume, former East German spy; Maurice Allom, former England and Surrey bowler and MCC president; Wallace Eyeley, theatrical publicist ..... Page 17

Tory unpopularity; the West's response to Turkey's presence in Iraq; reasons not to meddle with the Armed Forces ..... Page 15

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,828



ACROSS

1 Fashion right now in Sussex resort (8).
9 Are his patients normally given a double score? (8).
10 Dyke-builder's rubbish left out? (4).
11 *Frost reported by garden centre* — it's an old story (7-5).
13 Campaign endlessly for painting (6).
14 Not knowing one's in a blissful state (8).
15 Rustic who follows poet in title (7).
16 One arresting hot-rod driver, perhaps (7).
20 Appoint Master in Etonian reshuffle (8).
22 Planet extremely hazy and waterlogged (6).
23 A British leader transported and guarded faraway (6-6).
25 Bones trouble one in retirement (4).
26 Doolittle's way of making up ground? (8).
27 They *stimulate our defences*, (not for clans sharing common ancestor) (8).

DOWN

2 Rotting produce out of sight of the house (3-5).
3 Unusual dresser in street? Vast blunder! (12).
4 Bang up motorway the wrong way to Maidstone, for example (8).
5 One embraced by girl in play (7).
6 To keep at home, flower is in wrong setting (4,2).
7 *Blithe Spirit* not opening? (4).
8 Forerunner of a freelance storyteller (8).
12 Exchanging punches, possibly? (5-7).
15 Needle of salt in long case (8).
17 Bold course in swirling mist (8).
18 According to the book, an ancient Greek letter-opener (8).
19 It softens the sound under the sea, we hear (7).
21 Get a metal box to hold soldiers (6).
24 Celebrated dynasty (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

Solution to Puzzle No 19,827

P	O	U	L	T	I	C	E		P	E	D	L	A	R
E		P		R		O			R		I		S	
C	U	S	T	O	M	M	A	D	E		T	A	P	E
C		U		P		V		C			I			
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National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
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North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Great Malvern, Hereford & Worcester, 20C (68F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, 0.12in; highest sunshine: Newquay, Cornwall, 12hr.

FORECAST

England and Wales will be fine and dry. After early mist clears, most places will have plenty of sunshine. Quite warm in most places, although onshore breezes will ensure that the coasts are cooler. Scotland and Northern Ireland should have a mostly fine day with sunny spells. The far north will be cloudy at times with a little light rain or drizzle.

☐ **London, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Central N:** dry, sunny or clear after early mist disperses. Winds light and rather variable in direction. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **SE England, E Anglia, E England:** dry, sunny or clear periods after early mist clears. Winds mainly northeast, light or moderate. Max 15C (59F) but cooler on coasts.

☐ **Central S England, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England:** dry, early mist soon clearing, mainly sunny or clear. Winds light and rather variable, with sea breezes in the afternoon. Max 17C (63F) but cooler on coasts.

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, N Ireland:** dry, sunny spells. Winds light, mainly southwesterly. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** rather cloudy, patchy drizzle. Winds southwesterly, moderate, locally fresh. Max 11C (52F).

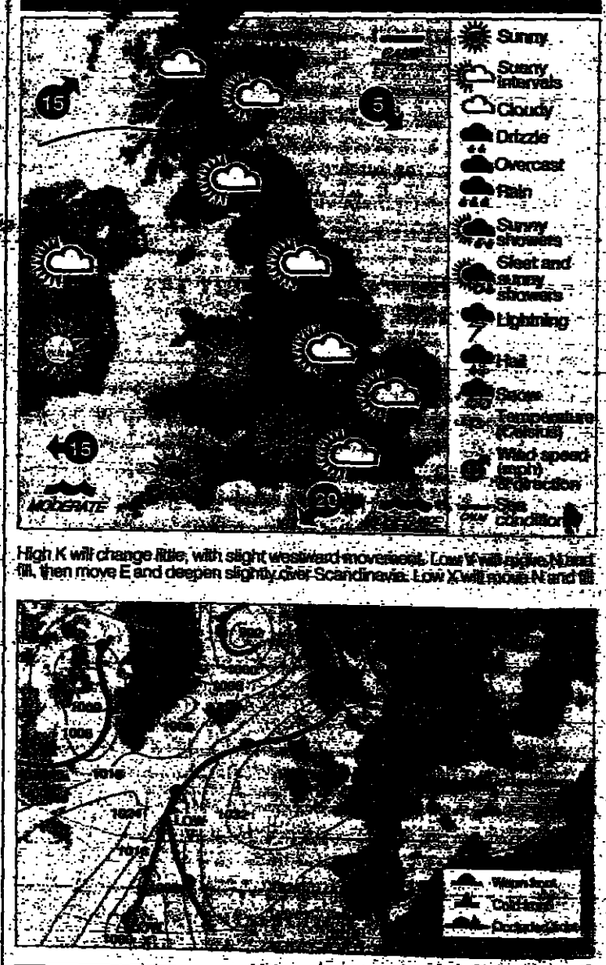
☐ **Outlook:** England and Wales will stay fine until Saturday night. Further north, a band of cloud and patchy rain will push south across Scotland and Northern Ireland. Sunday will have a bright start in the south. Cloudier weather with patchy rain will spread south from Scotland and Northern Ireland.

AROUND THE WORLD

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.1	0.02	15	59	r	London	10.0	-	19	66	s
Anglesey	7.5	-	12	54	s	Lowestoft	8.7	-	19	66	s
Aspatria	5.3	-	13	55	b	Manchester	8.5	-	15	59	s
Aviemore	4.5	-	13	55	b	Margate	10.3	-	17	63	s
Belfast	0.8	-	13	55	c	Minehead	X				
Birmingham	9.6	-	18	64	s	Morecambe	6.3	-	11	52	b
Bognor R	11.1	-	16	61	s	Newcastle	3.3	-	15	59	b
Bournem'th	10.1	-	15	59	s	Newquay	12.0	-	16	61	s
Bristol	X					Norwich	9.2	-	18	64	s
Buxton	11.3	-	13	55	s	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	8.7	-	18	61	s	Oxford	10.0	-	18	64	s
Clacton	10.7	-	15	59	s	Penzance	11.1	-	14	57	s
Colwyn Bay	10.1	-	13	55	s	Plymouth	10.4	-	15	59	s
Cromer	11.5	-	16	61	s	Poole	10.3	-	19	66	s
Doncaster	10.9	-	16	61	s	Prestatyn	X	-	13	55	s
Eastbourne	9.7	-	15	59	s	Ross-o-wye	8.4	-	18	66	s
Edinburgh	2.2	0.02	14	57	d	Ryde	9.3	-	17	63	s
Eskdalemuir	1.9	0.03	11	52	r	Saltcombe	11.4	-	15	59	s
Exmouth	10.2	-	14	57	s	Sandown	9.2	-	16	61	s
Falmouth	X	-	13	55	s	Saunton Snd	11.8	-	16	61	s
Fishguard	8.6	-	11	52	s	Scarboro'	8.5	-	13	55	b
Folkestone	11.3	-	14	57	s	Scilly Isles	10.3	-	15	59	s
Glasgow	2.4	0.04	12	54	r	Shanklin	10.3	-	15	59	s
Guernsey	X					Shrewsbury	9.4	-	15	59	s
Hastings	10.5	-	14	57	s	Skegness	11.2	-	17	63	s
Heysham	9.9	-	14	57	s	Southend	9.4	-	18	64	s
Herne Bay	9.8	-	18	64	s	Southport	10.1	-	11	52	s
Howe	9.8	-	14	57	s	Southsea	8.7	-	18	64	s
Hunstanton	11.5	-	18	61	s	Stornoway	3.8	0.09	11	52	sh
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	11.0	-	16	61	s
Isle of Man	4.0	-	13	55	b	Teignmouth	10.6	-	16	61	s
Jersey	10.9	-	18	64	s	Tenby	7.2	-	14	57	b
Kinloss	4.4	-	14	57	s	Tiree	3.7	0.06	10	50	b
Leeds	7.9	-	15	59	b	Torquay	10.5	-	15	59	s
Lerwick	1.1	0.04	10	50	sh	Tynemouth	-	-	16	61	s
Leuchars	3.8	-	15	59	b	Ventnor	10.6	-	14	57	s
Littlehmptn	10.6	-	15	59	s	Weymouth	10.7	-	14	57	s
Liverpool	9.3	-	12	54	s						

These are Tuesday's figures



High K will change little, with slight westward movement. Low V will move N and fill, then move E and deepen slightly over Scandinavia. Low X will move N and fill.

EUROPE

Ajaccio	18	64	s	C'hagn	6	43	c
Alicante	16	61	f	Corfu	11	52	r
Alex'dria	-	--		Dublin	11	52	c
Algiers	20	68	s	Dubrovnik	13	55	s
Amst'dm	12	54	f	Faro	22	72	s
Athens	17	63	t	Florence	19	66	f
Bahrain	25	77	f	Frankfurt	11	52	c
Bangkok	34	93	s	Funchal	18	64	f
Barbados	28	82	f	Geneva	15	59	s
Barcelona	18	64	s	Gibraltar	20	68	s
Beirut	17	63	t	Helsinki	6	43	f
Belgrade	5	41	f	Hong K	21	70	c
Berlin	8	46	r	Innsbruck	6	43	r
Bermuda	22	72	c	Istanbul	15	59	f
Biarritz	16	61	c	Jeddah	30	86	s
Borde'x	21	70	s	Jo'burg	15	59	s
Brussels	14	57	f	Karachi	38	100	f
Budapst	7	45	c	L Palmas	20	68	f
B Aires	17	63	f	Le Touquet	15	59	f
Cairo	-	--		Lisbon	22	72	s
Cape Tn	26	79	s	Locarno	19	66	s
Chicago	13	55	f	L Angels	13	55	s
Ch'church	16	59	-	Luxembg	14	57	c
Cologne	15	59	f	Madrid	23	73	s
Majorca	20	68	s	Rome	16	64	f
Malaga	21	70	f	Salzburg	9	48	c
Malta	18	64	s	S Frisco	14	57	s
Melb'rne	15	59	f	Santiago	29	84	s
Mexico C	25	77	c	S Paulo	28	82	c
Miami	26	79	s	Seoul	9	48	s
Milan	18	64	s	Sing'por	29	84	f
Montreal	9	48	s	St'kholm	10	50	f
Moscow	13	55	f	Strasb'rg	14	57	s
Munich	9	48	c	Sydney	18	64	c
Nairobi	25	77	c	Tangier	23	73	s
Naples	15	59	f	Tel Aviv	19	66	f
N Delhi	31	88	s	Tenerife	21	70	c
N York	11	52	f	Tokyo	18	64	s
Nice	15	59	s	Toronto	9	48	c
Oslo	6	43	c	Tunis	19	66	f
Paris	18	64	s	Valencia	21	70	s
Peking	21	70	s	Vanc'ver	9	48	s
Perth	28	82	f	Venice	13	55	f
Prague	6	43	r	Vienna	9	48	f
Reykjavik	3	37	c	Warsaw	1	34	sn
Rhodes	12	54	r	Wash'ton	7	45	c
Rio de J	24	75	f	Wellington	18	64	f
Riyadh	27	81	f	Zurich	14	57	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	---	---	12.09	6.6ft	Leith	0.39	4.9ft	1.03	5.1ft
Aberdeen	11.42	4.9ft	---	---	Liverpool	9.20	29.8ft	9.45	30.5ft
Avonmouth	5.19	42.1ft	5.48	42.5ft	Lowestoft	9.20	6.8ft	9.55	7.0ft
Belfast	9.08	3.2ft	9.47	3.1ft	Milford Haven	5.11	23.0ft	5.40	23.6ft
Cardiff	5.10	30.7ft	5.40	30.9ft	Newhaven	10.23	15.1ft	10.35	14.5ft
Devonport	3.54	15.6ft	4.24	15.6ft	Oban	4.23	6.5ft	4.42	6.5ft
Dover	9.15	5.0ft	9.35	5.3ft	Orkney	2.53	6.3ft	3.13	6.3ft
Dublin	9.55	9.8ft	10.13	3.6ft	Penzance	4.07	20.8ft	4.36	21.0ft
Falmouth	3.12	4.7ft	3.37	4.7ft	Portland	8.50	14.4ft	9.19	14.5ft
Glasgow	10.58	4.9ft	11.50	4.2ft	Portsmouth	4.50	7.7ft	5.20	7.8ft
Harwich	10.07	3.6ft	10.26	3.7ft	Shetland	0.58	4.2ft	1.21	4.2ft
Holyhead	8.33	5.2ft	8.59	3.2ft	Southampton	6.06	4.1ft	6.33	4.4ft
Hull	4.30	6.6ft	5.14	3.6ft	Swansea	4.59	34.7ft	5.29	35.1ft
Ilfracombe	4.09	8.3ft	4.36	8.6ft	Tees	1.44	4.6ft	1.59	5.0ft
King's Lynn	4.57	5.8ft	5.21	16.4ft	Weymouth	8.56	9.9ft	10.15	3.0ft

... Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

Sun rises: 6.11 am — Sun sets: 7.53 pm

Moon sets: 4.59 am — Moon rises: 5.40 pm

Full moon April 15

London 7.59 am-8.08 pm; Edinburgh 6.11 am-7.53 pm; Penzance 6.32 am-8.02 pm

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ANATOLE KALETSKY 27

Japan can provide a lesson in noblesse oblige



ARTS 31-33

Maurizio Pollini's piano genius on bargain CD



SPORT 37-44

Lady Herries puts Celtic Swing back on course

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook THURSDAY APRIL 13 1995

Kerkorian offers $23bn for Chrysler

'If this is greenmail, it's an elaborate way of going about it'

FROM SEAN MACCARTHAIGH IN NEW YORK

TRACINDA, the Las Vegas investment company run by Kirk Kerkorian, 77, the casino billionaire, stunned Wall Street by proposing a $22.8 billion bid for Chrysler, the American carmaker.

If the bid becomes formal it will be second in size only to the $25 billion Kohlberg Kravis Roberts break-up bid for RJR Nabisco made at the peak of the late Eighties takeover boom in 1989.

Chrysler shares leapt from $39.25 to $51 in response to the intended $55 a share bid but analysts dismissed the offer as an attempt by Mr Kerkorian to put pressure on Chrysler to buy back his 10 per cent holding in the company.

Analysts immediately drew parallels between Mr Kerkorian's manoeuvre and the bid antics of the Eighties. One said: "It is hard to judge what the real agenda is. It is some kind of move to improve the share price but if this is greenmail, it's an elaborate way of going about it." During the Eighties, some would-be bidders made an approach for a company in the hope of being paid to go away: a practice known as greenmail.

The Tracinda announcement was acutely well timed. It came as Robert Eaton, the Chrysler chairman, was about to give a speech at the New York car show, America's largest and most important. Mr Eaton scrapped the speech and flew back to Chrysler's headquarters near Detroit.

Chrysler dismissed the proposal from Tracinda, which is best known as the developer of Las Vegas casino hotels. The company said it would review the proposed takeover but said it had recieved no offer from Tracinda. Chrysler added, however, that it it had been informed that a letter would be sent to Chrysler proposing what it described as a "negotiated transaction" subject to board approval and financing.

Chrysler said Tracinda had not hired a merchant bank for the deal and had no commitments for financing. The company added that although it would consider the offer, it did have a form of "poison pill" defence, but refused to comment further on it. A spokesman said: "This is new to all of us. We are surprised."



Kirk Kerkorian, left, has recruited Lee Iacocca as an investor

Chrysler shares have recently fallen from around $50 to below $40. Mr Kerkorian started buying at $12 in 1990 but paid around $47 for his most recent shares.

Earlier this week, Chrysler, the third largest US car group behind Ford and General Motors, cut its 1995 vehicle sales forecast for the third time this year, predicting total sales of 15.5 million cars and trucks in the US instead of the earlier estimate of 15.8 million.

In its announcement, Tracinda also revealed that Lee Iacocca, 70, the former Chrysler chairman, would join it as a substantial investor but would take no management role. Mr Iacocca was fired as president of Ford in 1978 by Henry Ford II and joined Chrysler as president and chief executive. He worked for a nominal salary of just $1 a year when he first joined Chrysler but made a massive $43 million profit in six years on options over Chrysler shares.

Alex Yemenidjian, a Tracinda executive, said: "As Chrysler's largest shareholder, our goal over the last five years has been to seek to enhance value for all Chrysler shareholders.

"We continue to believe that Chrysler's board of directors and Bob Eaton and his management team have done an excellent job of managing the company's operations. However, despite the efforts of Chrysler's board and management to enhance the market value of the company, the market continues to undervalue Chrysler stock."

Mr Yemenidjian said Tracinda foresees no fundamental changes in Chrysler, its business prospects or its management. He added that the buyout would not be highly debt-laden: "This is not a leveraged buyout, where assets need to be sold to help finance the transaction. The buyers are principals who are investing their own money."

In January, Chrysler trumpeted record annual profits of $3.7 billion, compared with a loss of $2.5 billion in 1993, and described 1994 as an outstanding year. Mr Eaton said there was so much money left over that the firm's 80,000 American employees would each receive profit-sharing cheques worth around two months' salary.

Chrysler features the Jeep Grand Cherokee among its most successful models.

Pennington, page 25
Stock market, page 26

A man who buys, sells and rebuys

BY ERIC REGULY

IF Kirk Kerkorian does to Chrysler what he did to MGM, the film studio, America's third-largest car maker is in big trouble.

Mr Kerkorian, a publicity-shy billionaire, is best known for his purchase of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, the legendary Hollywood studio. He bought it for $70 million in 1969 and spent the next two decades breaking it up, piecing it together again, merging it with United Artists and offering the whole mess for sale.

Everybody's Business, the guide to US corporations, said: "Two of Hollywood's most venerable studios [MGM and UA] were batted about like shuttlecocks during the 1980s, ending the decade in limbo, their cultures all but destroyed. Swinging the racket was Kirk Kirkorian, whose hobby is buying, selling, rebuying and reselling the same properties ... By all accounts, he has absolutely no interest in movies themselves."

Mr Kerkorian sold most of MGM to Ted Turner, the man who created the CNN news network, in 1986. He ran into financial difficulties and sold MGM back to Mr Kerkorian, less the film library. What is left of MGM is now controlled by Crédit Lyonnais, the French bank.

Mr Kerkorian was born in California, the son of an Armenian fruit seller. His first business was selling used cars. Later, he went into the casino business, using MGM's roaring lion logo to build up the franchise. Today, he owns 76 per cent of MGM Grand Hotel, the Las Vegas hotel and casino group.

Rate of fall in number of jobless slows

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

UNEMPLOYMENT fell last month, government figures showed yesterday. But business and City concern about inflationary pressures grew, supporting expectations of a rise in interest rates, even though the rate of decline in unemployment appears to be slowing.

Seasonally adjusted claimant unemployment fell by 20,500 — less than Whitehall statisticians and City economists had expected — to 2,346,200 in March. After revisions to the figures, the drop marked the 19th successive monthly fall and took the decline in unemployment since its peak in December 1992 to 632,300. However, the rate of decline in unemployment showed a marked slowdown from falls of about 50,000 three months ago.

James Paice, Employment Minister, said: "Britain, after three years of economic growth feeding through into more jobs and fewer people out of work, is about to start its fourth consecutive year of growth." But Harriet Harman, Labour's Shadow Employment Secretary, said no one now believed the government figures about the "appalling toll" of unemployment.

While the increase in average earnings in the year to February was unchanged at 3.5 per cent, a slowdown in productivity appears to be pushing up unit labour costs, which in manufacturing were up by 1.6 per cent in the past three months. This prompted increased City and business concern about inflationary pressures and renewed speculation about a rise in interest rates next month.

However, analysts said the unemployment figures suggested a deceleration in economic growth and implied that the tightening of the labour market seen in the fourth quarter of 1994 had eased.



SIMON WALKER

On target: Sir Rocco, at Le Meridien in London yesterday, anticipated rising room rates

Forte provides show of strength with £127m

BY MARTIN WALLER

A DOWNBEAT warning about the state of consumer demand sent shares in Forte, Britain's biggest hotel group, into reverse despite optimism from Sir Rocco Forte, the chairman, that hotel room rates could be on the rise.

Sir Rocco was announcing profits for the year to January 31 substantially higher than in the previous year but in line with City forecasts, and a frozen dividend. Forte shares, strong earlier this week, ended the day 4p lower at 236p.

"Clearly we have got a long way to go," he said as he presented a set of results that showed pre-tax profits of £127 million, up 65 per cent from the £77 million announced ahead of £34 million of exceptional items the previous year.

An unchanged 4.75p final dividend makes a same-again total of 7.5p, but this is fully covered by earnings per share of 10.1p, unlike the previous year's payment. Total debt at the end of the financial year stood at £1.6 billion, down by £87 million as a result of the group's positive cash flow.

Sir Rocco added: "We're under no financial pressure whatsoever." The group had more than £500 million of surplus banking facilities, while average length of debt was 11 years.

Forte acquired the French Meridien chain of hotels late last year for £280 million, and the figures include a £7 million provision to cover reorganisation. Sir Rocco said integration of Meridien and the existing Forte Grand chain was well under way, although a full merger of the respective head offices needed to await the statutory consultation with the workforce required in France.

Forte's stable of hotels managed to lift operating profits by 29 per cent to £176 million: the improvement from restaurants, which include the Little Chef and Welcome Break operations, was of 22 per cent to £82 million.

Sir Rocco said while sales and profits were ahead so far this year "general levels of consumer demand, particularly from the UK, are not buoyant". But Forte is optimistic about prospects for its London hotels, which were at full capacity at times at the end of last year. "It's a question of moving the average room rate ahead, rather than the occupancy," he said.

Tempus, page 26

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	3288.8	(+18.9)
Yield	4.25%	
FT-SE A All shares	1570.94	(+7.80)
Nikkei	16944.92	(+76.04)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4198.32	(+1.04)*
S&P Composite	505.81	(+0.08)*
Federal Funds	5¹⁄₁₆%	(5⁷⁄₁₆)
Long Bond	103¹⁄₃₂*	(102³⁰⁄₃₂)
Yield	7.38%*	(7.389)
3-mth Interbank	6⁹⁄₁₆	(6⁹⁄₁₆)
Long gilt		
future (Jun)	103³⁰⁄₃₂	(103¹⁄₃₂)
New York:		
$	1.5805*	(1.5821)
London:		
$	1.5827	(1.5841)
$	2.2348	(2.2361)
DM	7.7930	(7.7870)
FFr	1.8413	(1.8383)
SFr	133.52	(133.51)
Yen	84.3	(84.5)
£ Index		
London:		
DM	1.4038*	(1.4018)
FFr	4.8943*	(4.8875)
SFr	1.1860*	(1.1562)
Yen	83.05*	(83.57)
$'s Index	88.6	(88.4)

Tokyo close Yen 83.42

Brent 15-day (Jun) $18.36 ($18.30)

London close $380.15 ($380.65)

* denotes midday trading price

BT forms Italian alliance

BRITISH TELECOM fitted another piece into its European jigsaw puzzle yesterday by forming an alliance with Banca Nationale del Lavoro, the bank that operates one of Italy's largest private telecoms networks (Eric Reguly writes).

The joint venture, known as Albacom, will be 50.5 per cent owned by BT and 49.5 per cent by BNL. It will combine the telecoms activities and clients of BNL with those of BT, which launched its Italian service five years ago.

BT said that it and BNL, best known as the bank whose Atlanta branch extended $3 billion in unauthorised loans to Iraq in the late 1980s, would invest about £150 million over the next decade to update Albacom's voice and data network. The total investment figure will depend almost entirely on how much freedom Albacom is given after the Italian telecoms market is deregulated in 1998.

Michael Hepher, BT's managing director, said that Albacom's goal was to capture 20 per cent of the corporate telecoms market in Italy.

Albacom is BT's third European alliance. It recently formed joint ventures with Viag, the German industrial group, and Banco Santander in Spain.

New line, page 27

Anheuser-Busch takes half of London brewery

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE Mortlake brewery beside the Thames in west London, one of Britain's biggest and the source of three pints of beer in every hundred consumed across the country, has a new owner.

Anheuser-Busch, the world's largest brewer, based in St Louis, Missouri, is buying a half stake in a new joint venture that will own the Stag Brewery. The deal will safeguard the 83 jobs at the site, while further employment will be created by the planned installation of a bottling line there.

The other half of the joint venture will be held by Courage, the existing owner, which currently produces Budweiser beer for Anheuser at Mortlake and is in the throes of being sold to Scottish & Newcastle for up to £600 million.

The purchase is the Americans' first direct involvement in British brewing, although the group has taken stakes in other such ventures around the world.

Courage is owned by Foster's Brewing Group, the Australian lager producer, which bought it from Grand Metropolitan in 1991.

At that time, Anheuser granted the new owner a contract to brew Budweiser at Mortlake, but this was due to expire in 1996 and doubts had been expressed whether the Americans would stay with Courage or switch the contract to another brewer, putting continued employment at the brewery at risk.

The Stag Brewery, close to the finishing line of London's Boat Race, produces 900,000 barrels a year.

Budweiser is market leader in the premium packaged lager sector with 14 per cent of that market, having overtaken the former biggest seller, Holsten Pils.

Christopher Stainow, managing director of the joint venture that will own the brewery, said the deal would be followed by further investment of capital behind the brand.

Pennington, page 25

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Address ____
____ Postcode ____
Daytime phone No ____

Delivery: please allow 28 days TIM 30



Negative equity eases in South East

BY LIZ DOLAN

THE proportion of households with negative equity in London and the South East has slipped below 50 per cent of the national total for the first time since records began three years ago, according to the Woolwich Building Society.

Rising house prices in the South East and East Anglia, the two worst affected regions, helped to reduce the national total by 50,000 to 1.075 million in the first quarter of this year, the Woolwich said yesterday.

Some 50,000 fewer borrowers in London and the South East, and 10,000 fewer in East Anglia, now live in homes that are worth less than their mortgages. As well as an increase in house prices, this is also due to homebuyers closing the negative equity gap by making extra capital repayments when they can afford to.

But the national picture remains patchy. A total of 30,000 more households in three areas — Yorkshire & Humberside, the East Midlands and the South West — slipped into negative equity during the period.

House prices rose by 1.6 per cent in the South East and by 1.2 per cent in East Anglia during the quarter, according to the latest house price index, published this week by the Halifax Building Society.

In the same three months, house prices in the three regions hit by rising negative equity fell by between 1.2 per cent and 1.3 per cent.

First-time buyers, particularly those who purchased their homes between 1988 and 1991, continue to account for three in four households with negative equity.

Ciaran Barr, UK economist at Morgan Grenfell said: "I wouldn't read too much into these figures, not least because of seasonal factors." House prices tend to fall in the fourth quarter and rise in the first quarter of the year, he said.

In addition, the Woolwich's negative equity figures tend to be lower than those produced by either the Bank of England or by Morgan Grenfell. But Mr Barr guesses that, using his company's estimates, the national figure has probably fallen by about 250,000 to 1.25 million over the past year.

Morgan Grenfell does not expect any real improvement in the housing market until next year or the year after, helped by tax cuts and a real increase in salaries. The Woolwich says an annual 5 per cent rise in house prices will remove most households from negative equity within two years. But Morgan Grenfell is not expecting house prices to rise by more than 2 per cent this year.

Thornton chief dies at 49

BY JON ASHWORTH

ALLAN GRIFFITHS, head of corporate recovery at Grant Thornton, and a leading insolvency practitioner, has died, aged 49. Mr Griffiths, who led the rescue of the Keith Prowse tickets group and helped to orchestrate the Queens Moat Houses rescue package, was taken ill on his way to London on Monday, and died in hospital on Tuesday.

Mr Griffiths had just taken office as president of the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency. Colin Bird, the society's vice-president and senior partner for corporate recovery at Price Waterhouse, said: "Allan was a man of great status in our profession."

Mr Griffiths built Grant Thornton's insolvency department into a 356-strong team. He helped to orchestrate the Ratners restructuring and was receiver to Lancer Boss. He leaves a widow, Maureen, a daughter and a son.

TONY WHITE



Confident outlook: Roger Hurn, right, with Alan Thomson, finance director

Smiths cuts debt to £14m

BY MARTIN BARROW

STRONG cash flow at Smiths Industries allowed the aerospace and medical systems company to reduce net debt to £14 million from £20 million in spite of spending £27 million on acquisitions in the first half.

Acquisitions included Deltec, in the medical systems division, and Tutco, in the industrial group, both in America. Two European ducting companies, Interplas and Sodiamex, were also acquired to strengthen the Flex-Tek operation in the industrial division. Roger Hurn, chairman and chief executive, said all had performed well and enhanced earnings.

Pre-tax profits advanced to £58 million (£46 million) in the half-year ended January 28, with turnover rising to £408.1 million (£351.3 million). Earnings improved to 5.05p a share (4.6p), and the interim dividend is lifted to 5.05p (4.6p), to be paid on June 2. The shares rose 13p to 484p.

Smiths aerospace business, which lifted profits to £16.3 million from £14.1 million, received a boost with the selction by Boeing of its avionics equipment for the new 737 series aeroplanes, due to enter service in 1997. Profits from medical systems advanced to £26.1 million from £18.7 million, while the industrial division contributed £16.1 million, up from £11.7 million.

Mr Hurn said: "These are good results. The sizeable increase in profits comes equally from recent acquisitions and a better performance by the existing businesses." Mr Hurn said he was confident of the outlook for a continuing improvement in profits and earnings.

Tempus, page 26

British Gas resists making TransCo a subsidiary

BY ROSS TIGMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH GAS is resisting an attempt by Alan Duncan, a Conservative backbencher, to force it to reconstitute its gas transmission arm, TransCo, as a legal subsidiary.

An amendment tabled by Mr Duncan, a member of the standing committee examining the Gas Bill, suggests that reconstituting TransCo as a subsidiary would provide a better guarantee of fair treatment to rival suppliers than the accounting separation proposed in the Bill.

The Gas Consumers Council is backing Mr Duncan, who lists Harcourt Consultants, a private oil broking and consultancy firm, in the register of members' interests. Ian Powe, the director-general, said that the council believes equal treatment "is more likely to be achieved if there is a separate legal entity called TransCo".

British Gas responded with alarm. A spokesman said that turning TransCo into a subsidiary would cause "disruption". He was unable to say what form this disruption would take. Under government proposals, approved by Ofgas, the regulatory body, the Gas Bill would oblige British Gas to produce separate accounts for its gas transmisssion business.

Although about half of the gas carried by TransCo is already transported for independent suppliers serving commercial and industrial customers, accounting separation is seen as a necessary prelude to the phased opening of the household gas supply market from April 1996. It would be enforced through the British Gas supply licence.

An Ofgas spokesman said: "As it stands there is a degree of separation and we are happy with the way that is operating."

British Gas is already under attack by institutional shareholders unhappy about its executive pay and bonus scheme, and struggling to stem a rising tide of customer complaints about service standards.

TransCo accounts for £17.8 billion of British Gas assets and about 80 per cent of its revenues. According to industry observers, the company is terrified that creating a legal subsidiary would pave the way for it to be dismembered.

ING strikes a bid for Swedish Match

ING, the Dutch banking and insurance group, which last month took over Barings, the London merchant bank, for £660 million, said its Barings Capital Investors unit is leading a consortium bidding for Swedish Match, the lights and tobacco business of Volvo, Sweden's leading industrial group. Stockholm analysts put the market value of Swedish Match, owned by Volvo's BCP subsidiary, at 8-10 billion Swedish kronor (£684-855 million).

Volvo, which has declared its intention to sell off non-core activities and focus on cars and commercial vehicles, last week announced the sale its food business to Orkla, a Norwegian food group, for SKr4.2 billion. It also put its beverage business into a joint venture with Orkla. Separately, Volvo announced that it had sold its investment banking business, Alfred Berg, to ABN Amro, the Dutch banking group and arch-rival of ING — news that sharply lifted Volvo's shares.

Goldsmiths shines

THE rapid growth of Goldsmiths Group showed few signs of abating as the upmarket jewellery retailer unveiled a doubling of profits last year. Pre-tax profits jumped to £3.2 million from £1.5 million in the year to January 28. Sales rose by 12 per cent to £53.1 million (£44.6 million) with like-for-like growth of 10.4 per cent. Goldsmiths opened three new stores in the year, bringing the total chain to 117. Operating margins rose to 7.9 per cent from 6.3 per cent. A final dividend, to be paid on July 3, of 2.2p (1p) brings the total to 3p (1p).

Costs hit Alexandra

THE rising cost of raw materials has hit Alexandra Workwear, Europe's largest workwear manufacturer. Pre-tax profits were squeezed to £4.3 million (£4.6 million) in the year to January 28, on turnover of £61.8 million (£58.5 million). A final dividend of 3.7p a share, to be paid on June 30, brings the net payout to 6p, on earnings per share of 8.4p, down from 9.5p. This year, a £2.5 million relocation will streamline the four Bristol divisions into one. The cost is to be met partly by selling the long leasehold in Alexandra House.

Le Creuset held back

PRE-TAX profits at Le Creuset, the French cookware company listed in London, advanced to £3.23 million in the year to December 31, from £3 million in 1993. Paul van Zuydam, the chairman, said the 7.7 per cent rise did not fully reflect the underlying improvement, because of the problems caused by the strong franc to exports. Earnings rose to 14.1p a share from 13.4p. The dividend is Fr0.45 a share (Fr0.44). Profits were also affected by redundancy costs of £363,000.

AG Holdings pegged

A 30 per cent rise in timber and other commodity prices held back profits at AG Holdings, the manufacturer of reels for cable and wire rope. In the six months to January 31 taxable profits eased to £1.18 million (£1.2 million) despite a rise in turnover to £13.46 million (£8.02 million). The interim dividend is held at 2.25p a share, payable on July 3, from earnings of 4.2p (4.5p). The company said margins had been helped by operating efficiencies. The shares fell 3p to 130p.

Bloomsbury ahead

BLOOMSBURY PUBLISHING, which came to the market last June, shook off the effects of flat conditions in the book trade to push pre-tax profits ahead to £849,000 in 1994, compared with £455,000. The figure reflects lower interest costs after the float and a 22 per cent jump at the operating level. As indicated in the prospectus, a final dividend of 2.64p is being paid on the ordinary shares, out of earnings per share of 11.46p. Bloomsbury finished 1994 with net cash of £571,000.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION If you are in any doubt as to the action you should take, you should consult your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other professional adviser authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986 immediately. KPMG Corporate Finance, which is authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales to carry on investment business, is acting for The Electronics Boutique, Inc in connection with the tender offer and no-one else, and accordingly will not be responsible to any other person for providing protections afforded to its clients or for advising any other person on the tender offer.

Tender Offer

by

KPMG CORPORATE FINANCE

on behalf of

THE ELECTRONICS BOUTIQUE, INC

to purchase up to an aggregate of 16,975,787 Ordinary shares in

RHINO GROUP Plc

at 8½p per Ordinary share of 5p each

This tender offer closes at 3.30pm on 27th April 1995

Further copies of this tender offer and the accompanying form of tender (upon the terms of which alone tenders will be accepted) may be obtained on request from Independent Registrars Group Limited at the address set out in the form of tender.

13th April 1995

To the holders of Ordinary shares in Rhino Group Plc ("Rhino")

Dear Sir or Madam

TENDER OFFER

On behalf of The Electronics Boutique, Inc ("Electronics Boutique"), KPMG Corporate Finance hereby offers to acquire by tender (the "tender offer"), on the terms and subject to the conditions set out below, up to 16,975,787 Ordinary shares of 5p each in Rhino ("Rhino shares"), representing approximately 12 per cent. of the current issued ordinary share capital of Rhino, at 8½p per Rhino share.

As announced yesterday, Electronics Boutique has subscribed at a price of 8½p per Rhino share for 25,185,910 Rhino shares, representing approximately 17.9 per cent. of the current issued ordinary share capital of Rhino. In the event of Electronics Boutique acquiring all those Rhino shares for which it had tendered, Electronics Boutique's holding in Rhino would amount to 42,161,697 Rhino shares in aggregate, representing approximately 29.99 per cent. of the current issued ordinary share capital of Rhino.

Electronics Boutique has received irrevocable undertakings from trusts related to certain directors of Rhino, that they will tender 5,117,965 Rhino shares pursuant to the tender offer. Electronics Boutique has also received irrevocable undertakings from the directors of Rhino which provide that, in the event that less than 10,000,000 Rhino shares are tendered under the tender offer (representing 7.1 per cent. of the issued share capital of Rhino Group Plc), they will sell or procure for sale to Electronics Boutique, Rhino shares equal to the difference between 10,000,000 Rhino shares and the number validly tendered and accepted, up to a maximum of 4,882,032 Rhino shares, thereby ensuring that Electronics Boutique will acquire a minimum of 10,000,000 Rhino shares.

Terms of the tender offer

(1) The consideration under the tender offer is a fixed price of 8½p in respect of each Rhino share tendered and accepted.

(2) The tender offer is conditional on the receipt of tenders in respect of at least 1,405,858 Rhino shares (representing approximately 1.0 per cent. of the current issued ordinary share capital of Rhino). Accordingly, if tenders for less than such number of Rhino shares are received, the tender offer will be void.

(3) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) above, all tenders will be irrevocable.

(4) The tender offer will close at 3.30pm on 27th April 1995 and no tenders received after that time will be accepted.

(5) Rhino shares successfully tendered will be acquired by Electronics Boutique free from all liens, charges and encumbrances and with all rights attaching to the same, including the right to receive all dividends and other distributions declared, made or paid after the date hereof.

(6) Rhino shareholders may tender all or any part of their holdings. If the aggregate number of Rhino shares tendered amounts to more than 16,975,787 Rhino shares (or such lesser number as would not result in Electronics Boutique being required to make an offer pursuant to Rule 9 of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers), tenders will be scaled down pro rata to the total number of Rhino shares tendered. The decision of Electronics Boutique and KPMG Corporate Finance as to which shares have been successfully tendered shall be conclusive and binding on all shareholders.

(7) All tenders must be made on the form of tender which is enclosed, with the circular posted on 13th April 1995 to holders of Rhino shares containing the tender offer. Forms of tender must be duly completed in accordance with the instructions therein, which (together with the notes thereon) constitute part of the terms of the tender offer.

(8) A tender will only valid where the procedures contained herein and in the form of tender are complied with. The tender offer and all tenders will be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. Delivery or posting of a form of tender will constitute submission to the jurisdiction of the English courts.

(9) The making of the tender offer to persons who are residents in, or citizens of, countries other than the United Kingdom may be affected by the law of the relevant jurisdiction. No steps have been or will be taken to qualify the tender offer or to authorise the distribution of the tender offer or of a form of tender in any territory outside the United Kingdom. No person receiving a copy of the tender offer or any form of tender in any territory, other than the United Kingdom, may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use or permit the use of such form of tender, unless in the relevant territory such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him and/or such form of tender could lawfully be used without contravention of any, or without compliance with any unfulfilled, registration or other legal requirements. Accordingly, persons receiving a copy of the tender offer or a form of tender should not, in connection with such offer, distribute or send the same in or into any jurisdiction where to do so would or might contravene local securities laws or regulations.

Any person (including nominees and trustees) outside the United Kingdom wishing to take up the tender offer must satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, observing any other requisite formalities and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes due in such territory. In tendering, the person doing so warrants and represents to Electronics Boutique that the relevant offer or invitation may lawfully be made to him and that he has taken appropriate steps to satisfy himself as described above. Electronics Boutique reserves the right to treat as invalid any form of tender which Electronics Boutique or its agents believe may violate applicable legal or regulatory requirements.

Procedure for tendering

Forms of tender, duly completed and together with the relevant share certificate(s) and/or other documents of title, should be forwarded so as to arrive as soon as possible but in any event so that they are received by Independent Registrars Group Limited, Balfour House, 390-398 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1NQ not later than 3.30pm on 27th April 1995. If only part of a holding of Rhino shares is sold pursuant to the tender offer, the relevant shareholder will be entitled to receive from Rhino, if necessary, a certificate for the unsold Rhino shares.

Electronics Boutique reserves the right to treat as valid any form of tender which is not entirely in order or which is not accompanied by the relevant share certificate but no consideration will be despatched until the relevant share certificate(s) or an indemnity satisfactory to Electronics Boutique and KPMG Corporate Finance has been received.

Notwithstanding that no share certificate is delivered in respect of it, a duly completed form of tender (1) executed under seal by Sepon Limited and endorsed on behalf of the London Stock Exchange to the effect that the Rhino shares to which it refers are the whole or part of a holding registered in the name of Sepon Limited and are Rhino shares of which Sepon Limited is unconditionally entitled to become the registered holder, or (ii) endorsed by any other person(s) and endorsed on behalf of the London Stock Exchange to the effect that such person(s) is/are unconditionally entitled to become the registered holder(s) of Rhino shares to which it refers and that one or more valid stock transfer(s) in respect thereof in favour of such person(s) is/are in the course of registration will be treated as valid as at, and despatch on the date of its actual receipt, provided that on presentation to the Registrars of Rhino for registration, the instrument of transfer executed pursuant thereto is unconditionally accepted for registration. Any duly completed form of tender bearing the stamp of a member of the London Stock Exchange may, at the discretion of Electronics Boutique and KPMG Corporate Finance, be treated as valid notwithstanding that no share certificate is delivered in respect of it.

Settlement

(1) The result of the tender offer and (if applicable) the extent to which tenders will be scaled down will be announced by 5.30pm on 28th April 1995, the first business day after the closing date.

(2) Town clearing cheques in respect of the consideration due under the tender offer will be despatched by post by 11th May 1995 or, if later, within 14 days of the receipt of the relevant share certificates.

(3) If the tender offer becomes void in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Terms set out above, forms of tender will cease to have any effect and forms of tender and share certificates and/or other documents of title will be returned by post by 11th May 1995.

(4) All documents and remittances sent by or to holders of Rhino shares will be sent at their risk. No acknowledgement of receipt of tenders will be sent.

Taxation

The disposal of Rhino shares pursuant to the tender offer will constitute a disposal or part disposal for the purposes of United Kingdom taxation on capital gains and may give rise to a liability to taxation. Any shareholder who is in any doubt as to his tax position should consult his professional adviser.

Yours faithfully
for and on behalf of
KPMG Corporate Finance

R. Agutter
Partner

The contents of this advertisement have been approved for the purposes of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986 by KPMG Corporate Finance, who are authorised to carry on investment business by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. The principal place of business is 8 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8BB where a list of partners' names is open to inspection.

IoD names new head of policy

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LEADERS of the Institute of Directors yesterday announced a new policy head for the organisation in a move that was seen as a further step by the IoD towards the business and political mainstream.

Ruth Lea, currently economics editor of ITN and formerly a City economist, is to take over from Ann Robinson, who leaves the IoD next week to become director-general of the National Association of Pension Funds.

Business leaders saw the appointment as in line with moves by the free-market IoD to draw to itself wider support, after the appointment of Tim Melville-Ross as its Director-General.

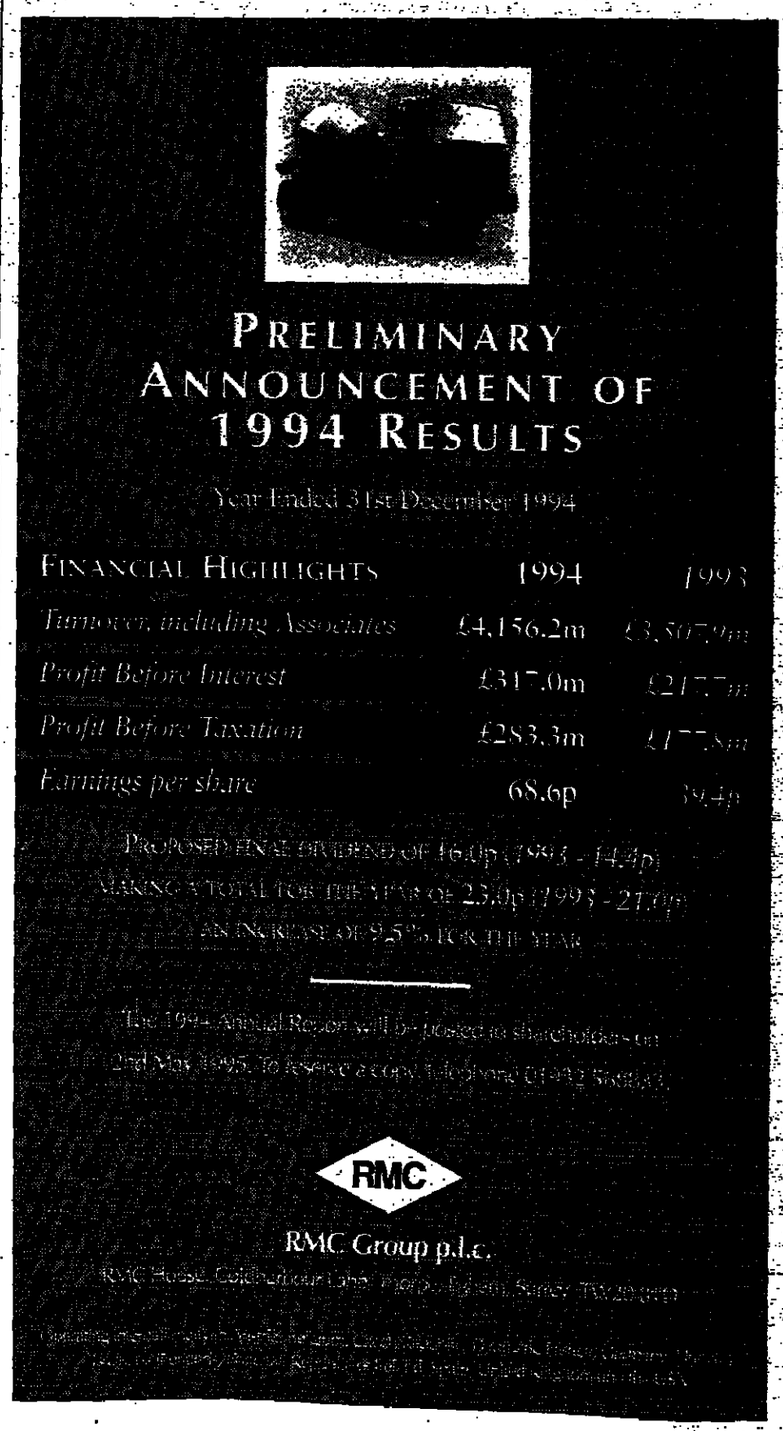
However, at the same time, the IoD is seen to have increased its backing for key Conservative Euro-sceptic right-wingers, especially Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary.

Ms Lea said: "I strongly share the institute's belief in wealth creation, the removal of barriers to enterprise and free and flexible markets in goods, services and labour."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.34	2.07
Austria Sch	16.73	15.23
Belgium Fr	48.93	44.63
Canada $	2.300	2.140
Cyprus CypE	0.750	0.695
Denmark Kr	9.40	8.60
Finland Mkk	7.42	6.77
France Fr	8.23	7.58
Germany Dm	2.39	2.18
Greece Dr	379.00	354.00
Hong Kong $	12.83	11.93
Ireland Pt	1.04	0.95
Israel	5.2253	4.4733
Italy Lire	2835.00	2580.00
Japan Yen	147.00	131.00
Malta	0.569	0.544
Netherlds Gld	2.854	2.424
Norway Kr	10.57	9.77
Portugal Esc	246.00	227.50
S Africa Rd	nil	5.31
Spain Pta	205.50	192.50
Sweden Kr	12.28	11.46
Switzerland Fr	1.97	1.79
Turkey Lira	rates	65087.0
USA $	1.586	1.556

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



☐ Doing the asset shuffle with Kirk Kerkorian ☐ Courage clears away the hurdles ☐ City swallows a sleeping pill

Buying a Chrysler on credit

☐ KIRK KERKORIAN made his first fortune in the 1940s flying war-surplus Dakota transport aircraft back to America and peddling them to airlines. He has been buying and selling assets — often the same assets, several times over — ever since.

Only one of the many businesses that have run through Mr Kerkorian's fingers during the past half century has been retained: the MGM Grand Hotel and casino group in Las Vegas.

A gambler by nature, Mr Kerkorian must now be hoping that the putative bid for Chrysler, America's third-largest car maker, by his Tracinda investment vehicle will unleash a flurry of rival offers. Of one thing we can be sure: he has no interest in making cars, any more than he was interested in making movies. Mr Kerkorian systematically dismantled MGM, one of Hollywood's most venerable studios, during the Seventies and Eighties.

The support of Lee Iacocca, who laid the foundations for Chrysler's extraordinary recovery during the early 1990s adds little to the credibility of Tracinda's unfunded $23 billion takeover "offer" for Chrysler.

Mr Kerkorian said that while Mr Iacocca was willing to invest $50 million and act as an adviser, he would have no management role. "I don't see Lee becoming an officer of the company or chairman of the board or anything of this sort," he said.

Indeed, Mr Kerkorian could find little to criticise in the conduct of Chrysler's affairs, apart from the prudence of its management in squirrelling away some cash for the next downturn in the car industry cycle, which is hardly a capital offence in any management textbook.

He did, however, suggest he would like to bring in some foreign investors who could help Chrysler to develop its business in overseas markets.

Away from the fevered atmosphere of Wall Street, Chrysler seems to be doing pretty well. In Britain, ably partnered by Inchcape as a distributor, Chrysler has relaunched its Jeep and sports car. Sales last year were double expectations.

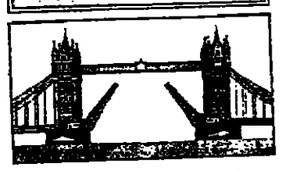
Mr Kerkorian's gamble is financial, not industrial. Mr Kerkorian says he has arranged no financing for his $55-share offer because he did not want his plans to leak. Tracinda claims to hold 10 per cent of Chrysler's shares. Yesterday, the stock climbed more than $12 a share to $49.25.

At that level Mr Kerkorian is already sitting on a $400 million profit. Not a bad mark-up on the cost of holding a press conference. If a bidding war ensues, Chrysler could fetch $70 a share or more, raising his profits to stratospheric heights. That might be good news for Mr Kerkorian, but saddling Chrysler with more than $10 billion of debt will do nothing to help its business prospects. Just look at the damaged caused by the leveraged buyouts of the Eighties.

This Bud's for you

☐ THE omens have never been quite so wrong as those that suggested the American Anheuser-Busch was about to leave Courage's high-tech Mortlake brewery for pastures new, so it is probably worth taking a few moments to consider who the unreliable soothsayers might have been.

PENNINGTON



The finger can most fairly be pointed at anyone who would gain from such a move, such as a potential successor on the contract, or from any muddying of the waters as the Courage sale to Scottish & Newcastle draws nearer. Unfortunately, this takes in pretty well all the British brewing industry.

The future of the Anheuser-Busch contract was one of the bridges to be crossed before the Courage sale takes place, since both parties must to take soundings from all of the owners of brands they produce under license. One option was for the Americans to buy the Stag Brewery outright, but this has never been their style. Instead the transfer of the Stag brewery into a stand-alone joint venture dedicated to just one brand and controlling distribution and marketing should make the job of getting the Courage-S&N merger through the Office of Fair Trading a little easier. The link will produce a brewer with 30 per cent of all production, which would normally signal a MMC reference and/or substantial divestments.

But the indications are that S&N will use the growth of imported beer, both along normal distribution lines and in the boot of cars on ferries and through the Channel Tunnel, to support its case. If the total beer market is taken into account, the argument will go, including the 15 per cent that is imported, the Courage and S&N's combined market share magically drops to 25 per cent.

The market reckons that the deal, by now somewhat delayed, will finally be announced by the end of this month, along with a rights issue from S&N to pay for it. Time will tell how much favour the above logic will find at the OFT, but it is likely to be vigorously attacked by the likes of Bass, current market leader, whose 24 per cent of production would be eclipsed by a newly merged rival.

AAH, that'll do nicely

☐ THE City has been remarkably listless about the battle for AAH, the pharmaceutical distribution business. When GEHE launched its original offer last month, the general reaction from institutions seemed to be relief that someone was prepared to bail them out of a sticky situation, given the company's recent profit warning.

AAH has gone through the motions of a defence, using the time-honoured phrases such as "inadequate and opportunistic". But it is always difficult to defend a company whose earnings per share have fallen 33p to 21p in the past five years. Even though last year's performance may have been a disastrous aberration, AAH has singularly failed to deliver real growth.

The advance in its profits in recent years has largely been driven by issuing shares for acquisitions, which boosts the bottom line but does little for shareholder wealth.

The lack of support or interest in AAH's case can be judged by the ease with which GEHE bought a 15 per cent of the shares yesterday. Clearly most fund managers were keen to cash in before they head off for the Easter holiday. GEHE has lifted its offer by a token 25p a share, to the price it probably intended to pay all along, and the City seem happy to close the book on the affair as soon as possible.

Such indifference is a shame, since AAH is a business that people outside the Square Mile care a great deal about. For all its faults, AAH controls 30 per cent of the whosesale drugs market in Britain. Its effectively the delivery point for the National Health Service, ensuring that vital medicines reach patients efficiently.

It would be churlish to suggest that such a company is a national asset. If so, it is in need of some repair so a grant from the National Lottery is well overdue. But it is perhaps just as well for the fund managers that MPs do not seem to have realised that AAH will soon be in German hands. If they did, they might create a huge stink under the guise of national interest and throw a spanner in the City's machine.

Gehe raids market after lifting bid for AAH

BY CARL MORTISHED

GEHE, the German pharmaceutical wholesaler, launched a market raid on the shares of AAH yesterday, raising Gehe's interest in the UK company to 17.8 per cent only hours after the Germans increased their bid for the UK wholesaler by 25p to 445p per share in cash.

An announcement from Gehe confirmed that Cazenove, the broker, had bought 2.36 million shares, giving Gehe control over a total of 15.9 million shares.

Among the stakes sold are believed to be 550,000 owned by Britannic Assurance and 50,000 from Equitable Life. Speculation circled around PDFM, the fund management group owned by UBS, the Swiss bank, which holds 17 per of AAH and has, in the past, played a role in swinging the odds in bid battles.

Gehe had already acquired 1.28 million shares, or 1.4 per cent, during the offer period.

AAH rejected Gehe's increased offer. John Padovan, the group's chairman, described it as inadequate and an opportunistic attempt to acquire the company on the cheap and said Gehe had not taken up the opportunity offered by AAH to examine the 1995-96 budgets of its pharmaceutical wholesaling business as part of a negotiation.

Gehe said that the increased offer was made to match the general rise in the equity market, pointing to a 5 per cent increase in the FT-SE 100 index and a 2.5 per cent rise in the all-share index since the original bid was announced.

Dieter Kaemmerer, chairman of Gehe, said the offer of 445p represented almost 21 times the earnings of AAH last year. "It takes full account of the rationalisation that has taken place and the magnitude of the task involved in trying to improve AAH's performance."

Gehe may consider a rationalisation of AAH's warehouses. The Germans have attacked AAH's low operating margins and the market has compared AAH's operating margin of 2 per cent with the 3 per cent achieved by UniChem, its main rival, which has fewer depots. Comparing the two, Herr Kaemmerer said: "Eleven or 12 may be a better number than 17 or 18."

He said that Gehe had insufficient information at present to make a decision about depots and said that the key was to have effective systems or controls. He pointed to a fall in free cash flow at AAH, in spite of the recent rationalisation.

Gehe has dramatically reduced the number of warehouses in its French operation OCP, acquired in a takeover in 1993. In the first year, 12 were shut down and another ten were closed this year from an original total of 78. In Germany, Gehe runs its £2 billion wholesaling operation from 18 warehouses.

Nurdin & Peacock falls by half

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

DICKIE FULFORD, chairman of Nurdin & Peacock, the cash and carry operator, admitted the group had been through a painful year but predicted an upturn in the coming year.

"We have taken a lot of pain but that is now past. This year we will start to get some benefits," he said. Last month N&P was forced to abandon its Cargo Club warehouse format after disappointing sales and has been hit by disruption to its core cash and carry stores, which have been converted to a new format.

The cost of these developments took its toll on pre-tax profits, which tumbled to £16.5 million from £32.1 million in the year to December 30.

However, like-for-like sales, which fell 1 per cent last year, are currently up 3.3 per cent.

Mr Fulford said the group had had no further discussions with SHV Makro, which last month proposed a merger of the two businesses.

A final dividend of 4.74p (4.44p) brings the total payout to 6.9p (6.5p). Shareholders will be paid on July 3.

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Growth in Germany helps RMC

BY OUR CITY STAFF

THE East German construction boom and recovery in the UK boosted profits at RMC, the readymix concrete and aggregates group. Germany now accounts for more than half the profits.

The company is anticipating further growth in Germany with the completion this year of improvements at the Rüdersdorf cement works near Berlin, where RMC will have invested £300 million by the end of the summer.

Profits bounced from £177 million to £283 million in the year to December, with the UK contribution more than doubling to £72 million. Growth at home came mainly from a 10-11 per cent boost in sand and gravel volumes and 6-7 per cent price increase for readymix concrete. Another similar price rise was put through in March, but the company insisted that prices in real terms were still about 10 per cent below peak levels in the late 1980s.

RMC is expecting slower growth in the UK. It is paying a 23p dividend for the year, up 9.5 per cent.

Tempus, page 26

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STOCK MARKET  PHILIP PANGALOS

Chrysler offer helps drive shares over 3,200 level

SHARES in London ended near their best levels after a futures rally spilled over into the cash market, allowing leading stocks to climb back above the 3,200 level.

A smaller-than-expected fall in unemployment, flat growth in average earnings and a higher-than-expected rise in unit labour costs were well received and prompted early buying, though disappointing US consumer prices and an uncertain start on Wall Street did little to bolster London in late trading.

London was boosted by news of the mega takeover move in the US for Chrysler Corporation after Kirk Kerkorian launched a $55-a-share cash offer for the motor manufacturer through his private Tracinda investment firm for the 90 per cent of it does not already own, valuing Chrysler at $22.8 billion.

The FT-SE 100 ended up 18.9 at 3,209.8. Volume, swollen by program trades, reached 553.6 million shares.

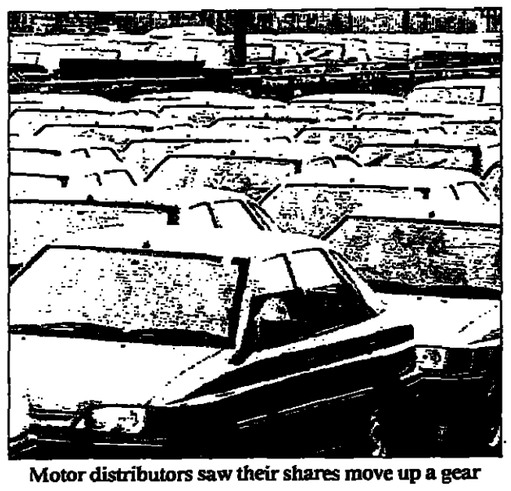
British Telecom, which is expanding further in Europe through an Italian joint venture, rose 6p to 388½p, as 6 million shares changed hands. BT was boosted after Kleinwort Benson reiterated its buy recommendation, with optimism on BT's prospects following an analysts meeting with the head of BT's business communications division earlier this week.

After finding the going tough over the past five years, Kleinwort says that BT's business communications division, which has an annual turnover of £5 billion, is managing to win back market share dramatically.

NatWest Securities also issued a research note on BT, though it advises a "hold".

There was a two-way pull for **Racal Electronics**, 5p lower at 245p, after Lehman Brothers downgraded its profit forecast, though Credit Lyonnais Laing remains positive on the stock. Lehman's pre-tax profits forecast to March 1995 has been reduced from £66 million to £60 million, while its estimate for the year to March 1996 is cut from £84 million to £77.5 million. Lehman has brought its forecast in line with most others, but the company is still concerned about relatively flat defence export markets.

Banks were in focus again as ABN-Amro Hoare Govett recommended a switch out of Abbey National, which has outperformed the market by 9 per cent since the start of the year, and into TSB Group, which has been flat in comparison. **Abbey National** eased 2½p to 474½p, while **TSB** firmed 3½p to 246p.



Motor distributors saw their shares move up a gear

Among those reporting, **RMC Group** fell 22p to £10.24 after some profit-taking in spite of results at the top end of market expectations. Smith New Court is thought to have raised its current year pre-tax profit forecast by £10 million to about £340 million.

Elsewhere, NatWest Securities was advising clients to reduce their holdings in **Tarmac**, up 1½p to 114p. NatWest also trimmed its forecast on **BICC**, which recovered 7p to 319p after Tuesday's slide after a warning on first half profits.

Mark Lambert at NatWest has cut his profit forecast by £10 million to £155 million.

There was continued demand for **United Biscuits**, an old takeover favourite, as the shares added 8p to 343p, for a two-day gain of 12p. **Hanson**, which is seen by many as a possible bidder, climbed 4p to 241½p, on volume of 14.7 million. There is persistent City talk that Hanson is preparing for a big deal, with other takeover favourites including **Cable and Wireless**, up 7p at 411p, **Argyll**, down ½p at 281p, and **British Gas**, 1p lower at 298p.

Medeva added 8p to 229½p, for a two-day gain of 15½p, with the latest rally driven by vague market talk of a possible merger with **Fisons**, up 2½p to 178p, or **Zeneca**, down 10p at 889p, though many seasoned City observers have their doubts.

Kleinwort Benson, the City merchant bank which is a favoured takeover target, rose 8p to 641p, with market whispers that ABN-Amro Hoare Govett may be planning a big deal, which some suggested could involve a bid for Kleinwort.

AAH, the healthcare and distribution group which is fighting off a hostile takeover bid from Gehe, the German pharmaceuticals wholesaler, added 7p to 442p, as Gehe raised its offer from 420p a share to 445p. AAH urged shareholders to reject the increased offer, calling the revised bid "inadequate and opportunistic".

There was also a boost for motor distributors after **Henlys**, up 6p to 304p, made bullish noises at its annual meeting. Henlys said first quarter pre-tax profits were substantially ahead of the same period last year.

Elsewhere in the sector, **Inchcape** rose 10½p to 317p, **Reg Vardy** 2p to 213p, **Caffyns** 2p to 240p and **Evans Halshaw** 2p to 373p.

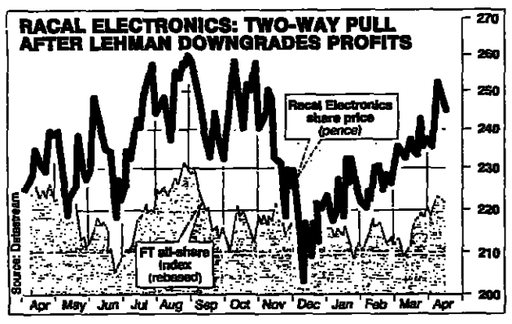
TLS Range, the USM-quoted vehicle rental group, jumped 4p to 46p after Henry Cooke Lumsden, the broker, issued a "strong buy" recommendation and raised its pre-tax profits forecast for the current year from £2.8 million to £3.3 million.

Vision Group made a sparkling market debut after a placing by Albert E Sharp. It closed at 156p, on volume of 5.7 million, giving a first-day premium of 59p on the 97p placing price.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts edged up as a host of UK economic figures prompted early buying. However, prices came off the boil after disappointing US consumer prices data, though a late rally, helped by Bund strength saw the June series of the long gilt future end 14 ticks higher at £103²⁰/₃₂, on quiet volume of 36,000 contracts. Among conventional stocks, gains stretched to £½ for longer-dated issues, while index-linked rose £⅜.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street shares became becalmed in morning trading as the $22.8 billion offer for Chrysler continued to dominate the market. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday was up 1.04 points at 4,188.12.

City whispers suggest it is worth keeping an eye on Dunton Group, the company dubbed the "cleanest shell in the market" by many in the Square Mile. Shares in Dunton rose ½p to 6p, on volume of 1.28 million, with speculation that Ringwood Investments may be looking to top up its 20 per cent stake.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones	4188.12	(+1.06)
S&P Composite	505.61	(+0.08)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei Average	16344.92	(+76.04)
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng	8509.69	(-4.91)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index	404.94	(+0.91)
Sydney:		
AO	2010.9	(+18.3)
Frankfurt:		
DAX	1988.47	(-5.26)
Singapore:		
Straits	2062.50	(+7.90)
Brussels:		
General	7140.88	(+4.23)
Paris:		
CAC-40	1871.93	(+2.62)
Zurich:		
SKA Gen	589.80	(+0.40)
London:		
FT 30	2447.5	(+13.2)
FT 100	3209.8	(+18.9)
FT-SE Mid 250	3493.1	(+8.8)
FT-SE-A 350	1592.0	(+8.2)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1281.77	(+0.69)
FT A All-Share	1570.84	(+7.60)
FT Non Financials	1691.04	(+6.24)
FT Fixed Interest	110.84	(+0.06)
FT Govt Secs	92.21	(+0.30)
Bargains	31932	
SEAQ Volume	637.3m	
USM (Datastrm)	180.27	(+0.38)
US$	1.5882	(-0.0081)
German Mark	2.2306	(-0.0053)
Exchange Index	84.3	(-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£:ECU	1.2008	
£:SDR	1.0186	
RPI	146.9 Feb (3.4%) Jan 1987=100	

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	170	...
Beale	171	...
Brit Aerospace Uts	158	+4
Colleagues	156	+1
Dalfywin (128)	130	...
Datrontech (130)	153	+8
Expro Intl (175)	174	...
For & Col Spec Uts (100)	100	...
Geared Inc Inv Tst (100)	99	...
Golden Rose Cms (135)	123	+3
HTR Inc/Gth Split (100)	104	+ ½
Nat Power (p/p) (476)	165	+1½
PTS Group (90)	92	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	182	...
Schroder Inc Gth	533	+1
Scot Oriental Smlr (100)	98	+2
Superframe Group (50)	37	−2
Superframe Wts	5	...
Vision Group (97)	156	...
Zotefoams (145)	177	+1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Arcon Int n/p (Ir20p)	¼	...
Gulnness Peat n/p (20)	5	...
Horace Smi App n/p (90)	34	−2
Inspec Group n/p (175)	37	+4
Marley n/p (112)	13	+1
TBI n/p (35)	2	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Allied Irish	290p (+14p)
Barclays	661p (+15p)
SG Warburg	745p (+11p)
Yule Catto	238p (+13p)
Broken Hill	889p (+10p)
Smiths Ind	484p (+13p)
AB Food	649p (+11p)
Amersham	877p (+19p)
Thomson Corp	805p (+20p)
Smithkline	521p (+10p)
LBMS	150p (+11p)
Gen Accident	591p (+14p)

FALLS:

Hambros	212p (-8p)
RMC Group	1024p (-22p)
Clyde Blowers	144p (-6p)
Siebe	570p (-6p)
Zeneca	889p (-10p)
J Sainsbury	420p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 28

TEMPUS

Rooms for improvement

BY FORTE'S own admission, the group's financial ratios continue to look less attractive than they should. Prime concern is debt, with gearing still at 59 per cent even after the post-balance sheet sale of Forte's quarter of Gardner Merchant. Dividend cover of 1.3 times is just about sufficient, but it does not suggest any great increases in train, even if the group pledges a "progressive" payment policy.

Gardner Merchant, minus repurchases of various redundant interest swaps, will cut debt by another £100 million to £1.5 billion, and the City reckons there could be another £300 million or more of disposals to go, including the quarter of Alpha Airports that was exercising the latter's management on Monday, the White Hart hotels now officially deemed "non-core businesses" and various other odds and ends around the world. Forte is insistent that the Crest chain is not up for grabs. The opportunity here is to rebrand this middle-market chain as either Meridien or Posthouse.

The 1993-94 figures were heavily laden with provisions, and by the cleanest comparison 1994-95 showed a 15 per cent rise at the operating level to £258 million. Forte is shy of quoting room occupancy rates, but in London the average is probably more than 80 per cent, which suggests space must, as the group claims, have been at a premium in peak periods. With supply in the capital actually reducing while demand grows by perhaps 5 per cent, this gives the clear opportunity to raise rates substantially. Such thinking supports City forecasts of £200 million pre-tax this year, which puts the shares on 15.5 times earnings. At this level they will not lack support.

RMC

BRITAIN could learn a few useful lessons from Germany about how to manage a construction boom. Two years ago, worried heads were shaking about the big profits earned by Marley and RMC in the reunited Germany.

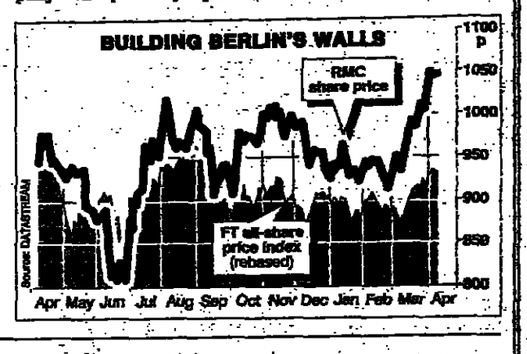
But the surge in volumes continues and a bit of clever output management by Germany's construction industry means that the boom could develop into a soft landing with more growth at a gentle pace.

RMC is heavily exposed to Germany, a major factor in its success, but the question remains as to where it goes from here.

The company has set itself a demanding target of 20 per cent return on capital. On the basis of RMC's £2 billion asset base, that would imply a rise in operating profits of £300 to £400 million.

The market is forecasting £330 million pre-tax this year. Some healthy volume growth in RMC's more sluggish markets could push the group near the target in 1996. RMC is not standing still with heavy investment in its plant near Berlin. The company will probably spend just under £300 million this year and opportunities beckon in markets across Europe.

RMC is right to target high returns but investors should not expect immediate pay-backs from a business that has a record of making its investments pay. After yesterday's slide, the shares look cheap on just over 12 times forecast earnings.



Smiths Industries

SMITHS Industries is looking more impressive as every set of results goes by. Given that the group's main aerospace business is still suffering from a global recession, it is hard to fault an operating margin of 11.5 per cent.

Even more reassuring is the group's ability to maintain a high cash flow, which it is busy recycling into promising acquisitions to expand its medical and industrial divisions. In spite of spending £27 million on acquisitions in the first half of the year, net debts fell £6 million to a negligible £14 million, leaving the group open to the criticism that it is undergeared.

Smiths shares are looking even more attractive now that good news is beginning to flow through in from its aerospace division. By winning the order from Boeing for the new 737's flight management system, Smiths has proved it can beat world class competition for the contracts it chooses to pitch for.

Naturally, such a combination of performance and promise does not come cheap. The shares, at 484p, trade on 16 times current year earnings, falling to perhaps 13 times for 1996. While it is hard to pay that price when there are so many cheaper stocks in the sector, the shares should not be sold.

Nurdin & Peacock

EVERYTHING that could go wrong did go wrong for Nurdin & Peacock last year. Cargo Club failed, converting its cash-and-carry stores to a new format severely disrupted sales, margins nosedived and it received an unwelcome merger offer from SHV Makro, one of its rivals.

Pre-tax profits halved last year and the management can justifiably feel the only way is up. The question is how far. Many of its problems are one-offs. Cargo Club's £7.4 million of losses will not be repeated, indeed the bottom line this year will benefit from £8.5 million exceptional profit on the sale of the sites to J Sainsbury. The £4.1 million cost of converting to the new cash-and-carry format has been taken and the consequent disruption to sales, which reduced gross profits by £1.8 million, will not recur. The M6 acquisition should also start contributing to profits this year.

That said, there is still a lot to be done. Underlying operating profits fell 19 per cent, largely as a result of lower margins. N&P is working hard to turn that round. The product mix has been improved with greater emphasis on higher margin non-food lines. The group is also increasing the proportion of own-label business.

With recovery on the cards and bid rumours in the air, the shares could go further.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	935-934	Jul	1044-1043
Jul	960-959	Sep	1055-1053
Sep	981-979	Dec	1070-1062
Dec	1030-1031	Mar	1088-1075
Mar	1022-1020		
May	1034-1032	Volume: 3430	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	3083-3082	Jan	2935-2930
Jul	3027-3026	Mar	2915-2905
Sep	2985-2980	May	2905-2890
Nov	2955-2952	Volume: 2321	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	310 6-10.0
Spot: 360.0		Mar	310.5-09.5
May	358.4-58.0	May	310.2-08.7
Aug	347.0-46.5	Aug	310.2-06.7
Oct	319.0-18.5	Volume: 3137	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 11

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	89.26	130.75	123.13
(+/-)	-0.94	-2.52	-0.76
Eng/Wales:	89.23	131.52	121.70
(+/-)	-1.34	-2.07	-0.93
(%)	+5.0	n/c	+6.0
Scotland:	89.43	124.38	128.34
(+/-)	+1.63	-7.09	-0.44
(%)	+25.0	-31.0	+13.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.75 +0.20
Brent 15 day (May)	18.85 +0.30
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.35 +0.15
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.80 (n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.70 -0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 196 (+5)	O: 198 (+5)
Gasoil EEC	168 (+1)	170 (+1)
Non EEC IH May	160 (-1)	161 (-1)
Non EEC IH Jun	158 (-2)	160 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	107 (+6)	109 (+6)
Naphtha	167 (n/c)	169 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	157.75-58.00	Aug	158.00-58.25
Jun	156.75-57.00	Sep	159.25-59.50
Jul	157.00-57.25	Vol: 40297	

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	18.91-18.93	Aug	17.79-17.81
Jun	18.35-18.36	Sep	17.60 BID
Jul	18.03-18.04	Vol: 57517	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	116.65	May	110.35
Jul	117.60	Sep	102.00
Sep	102.75	Nov	103.20
Nov	103.95	Jan	105.10
Jan	105.85	Mar	106.90
Volume: 445		Volume: 105	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	320.0	308.5
Apr	134.0	138.0
May	unq	unq
	Volume: 77	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May ... 121.75-122.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 95	2310	2295	2288
May 95	2290	2270	2275
Jun 95	2190	2175	2168
Jul 95	2015	1990	1990
Vol: 333 lots		Open interest: 4557	
	Index 2234 +14		

(Official) (Volume prev day) — **LONDON METAL EXCHANGE** — **Rudolf Wolff**

	Cash: 2944.5-2945.5	3mth: 2910.0-2930.0	Vol: 1657560
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	603.00-603.50	615.50-616.00	98000
Lead ($/tonne)	1049.5-1050.5	1070.0-1071.0	530900
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	5815.0-5816.0	5830.0-5835.0	26140
Tin ($/tonne)	1834.0-1835.0	1854.0-1855.0	1132150
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	7285.0-7290.0	7400.0-7410.0	85938
Nickel ($/tonne)			

FT-SE INDEX (*3210)

3100	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350

Calls

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Apr	127	80½	37	11½	2½	1	
May	145	106	71½	44½	25½	13	
Jun	164	128	98	71½	50	34	
Jul	169½	154½	124½	96½	74½	55	
Dec	268	—	204½	—	155	—	

Puts

Apr	1½	4	14	42	90	140
May	14½	25	41½	68	99	141
Jun	31½	45	65½	89½	119	154½
Jul	46½	61½	81½	104½	132½	169½
Dec	92	—	130	—	181	—

April 12, 1995 Tot: 29121 Call: 14834 Put: 14287 FT-SE Call: 5095 Put: 7151

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3210.0	3238.0	3205.0	3235.0	11510
Previous open interest: 72260	Sep 95	3248.5	3248.5	3248.5	3259.0	2
FT-SE 250	Jun 95	3505.0	3515.0	3505.0	3515.0	93
Previous open interest: 4395	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.88	92.94	92.87	92.92	17330
Previous open interest: 391170	Sep 95	92.44	92.48	92.42	92.46	10696
	Dec 95	92.11	92.14	92.09	92.12	6637
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.63	0
Previous open interest: 1149	Sep 95				93.44	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	95.26	95.28	95.24	95.28	16697
Previous open interest: 694830	Sep 95	94.98	95.05	94.97	95.04	24693
Long Gilt	Jun 95	103-16	103-30	103-10	103-26	36658
Previous open interest: 86128	Sep 95				103-15	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	114.21	114.46	114.20	114.36	4401
	Sep 95				113.56	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	92.17	92.46	92.06	92.42	101417
Previous open interest: 181124	Sep 95	91.65	91.80	91.65	91.87	216
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.57	93.65	93.51	93.63	2446
Previous open interest: 19411	Sep 95	93.42	93.50	93.36	93.45	901
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.44	96.46	96.42	96.45	3134
Previous open interest: 37896	Sep 95	96.33	96.35	96.30	96.34	1487
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	94.10	94.18	93.75	93.91	29475
Previous open interest: 44393	Sep 95	93.30	93.30	93.30	93.26	2

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 5 Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¼ ; 3 mth 6¼ . Sell: 2 mth 6 ; 3 mth: 6¼ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5¹¹/₁₆-5⅝	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6⅜	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-5¹⁵/₁₆	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7-6⅞	7⅛-7⅛
Interbank:	6¼-5¹⁵/₁₆	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7-6⅞	7⅛-7⅛
Overnight: open 6 . close 8¼ .					
Local Authority Deps:	5¾	n/a	6¼	6¾	7¼
Sterling CDs:	6¼-5¹⁵/₁₆	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7-6⅞	7⅛-7⅛
Dollar CDs:	6.03	n/a	6.12	6.31	6.56
Building Society CDs:	6¼-5¹⁵/₁₆	6¼-6¼	6¼-6¼	7-6¾	7¼-7¼

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5¼	6¼-5¹⁵/₁₆	6⅛-6	6⅛-6¼	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	4¹⁵/₁₆-4¼	4¾-4⅝	4¹¹/₁₆-4⅝	4¾-4½	5-4
French Franc:	7¼-7⅛	7⅜-7¼	7⅜-7⅜	7⅜-6¹⁵/₁₆	8¼-6¾
Swiss Franc:	3¼-3⅛	3¼-3¼	3¼-3⅛	3⅜-3⅛	3¼-2¾
Yen:	1¹⁵/₁₆-1¾	1¾-1⅝	1¹⁵/₁₆-1¾	1¾-1⅝	2¼-1¼

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $389.40-389.90 Close: $389.90-390.40 High: $390.30-390.80
Low: $389.10-389.60 AM: $389.80 PM: $390.05

Krugerrand: $391.00-393.00 (£246.00-248.00)

Platinum: $450.25 (£282.55) Silver: $5.34 (£3.355) Palladium: $172.00 (£107.95)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4928-2.5046	2.5013-2.5046	¼-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Brussels	45.72-46.00	45.90-46.00	7-2pr	20-11pr
Copenhagen	8.7430-8.7770	8.7630-8.7770	¼-¼ds	¼-1ds
Dublin	0.9850-0.9890	0.9855-0.9881	1ds-2pr	3ds-2pr
Frankfurt	2.2369-2.2363	2.2332-2.2363	¼-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Lisbon	234.40-236.28	235.64-236.28	75-90ds	130-190ds
Madrid	198.57-199.78	198.57-198.87	41-56ds	132-154ds
Milan	2736.70-2763.60	2742.70-2752.50	8-12ds	25-31ds
Montreal	2.1883-2.1985	2.1921-2.1952	0.27-0.39ds	0.52-0.65ds
New York	1.5876-1.5932	1.5922-1.5932	0.03pr-par	0.15-0.11pr
Oslo	9.9660-10.0170	10.0020-10.0170	¼-¼pr	4¼-3pr
Paris	7.7610-7.8000	7.7860-7.8000	1-1¼ds	1¼-2ds
Stockholm	11.6740-11.7510	11.7090-11.7330	1¼-2¼ds	5½-6½ds
Tokyo	132.57-133.90	133.39-133.64	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr
Vienna	15.66-15.76	15.73-15.76	2¼-1¼pr	7¼-5¼pr
Zurich	1.8346-1.8427	1.8399-1.8427	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

EQUITIES

	Apr 12 midday	Apr 11 close
AMP Inc	39½	39½
AMR Corp	66½	66
AT & T	51¼	51¼
Abbott Labs	28¼	28¼
Advanced Micro	33½	33½
Aetna Life	58½	58½
Ahmanson (H/F)	19½	19½
Air Prod & Chem	50½	51¼
Albertsons	32½	32½
Allied Signal	39½	39½
Alum Co of Am	42¾	43½
Amax Gold Inc	5½	5⅝
Amerada Hess	48¾	49⅛
Amer Brands	38½	38½
Amer El Power	32½	32½
Amer Express	34½	35½
Amer Gen Corp	31¼	31½
Amer Home Pr	78½	79½
Amer Intl	104½	105¼
Amer Stores	24½	24½
Amertech	44¼	44½
Amoco	63¾	63½
Anheuser-Busch	58½	58½
Apple Computer	37¾	37¾
Archer Daniels	19½	19
Armco	7	6⅝
Armstrong Wrld	45	45
Asarco	23½	23½
Ashland Oil	34	34¼
Atl Richfield	114	114½
Auto Data Pro	64½	63¾
Avery Dennison	35½	35½
Avon Products	55½	55½
Baker Hughes	30½	30½
Baltim Gas & El	25½	25½
Banc One	30½	30½
Bankamerica	45¾	45½
Bank of NT	53	53½
Bankers Tr NY	53½	53½
Barnett Banks	45¾	46
Barnch & Lomb	36½	36½
Bauser Ind	23½	23½
Becin Dickinson	56½	56½
Bell Atlantic	53½	53½
Bell Industries	22½	22½
Bellsouth	61¼	61½
Black & Decker	29¾	29
Block (H&R)	44½	42
Boeing	55½	55½
Boise Cascade	38½	38½
Bristol Myers Sq	65½	65¾
Browning Ferris	35½	35½
Brunswick	20½	20½
Burlington Mthn	58	58½
CBS	63½	63½
CNA Financial	75	74½
CPC Intl	58½	58½
CSX	79½	79½
Campbell Soup	48½	48½
Can Pacific	15½	15½
Can Cons ABC	85½	85½
Carolina Pwr	37½	37½
Caterpillar	55½	55½
Central & SW	25½	25½
Champion Intl	44	44½
Chase Manhat	41	40¾
Chemical Bk	39½	40¼
Chevron Corp	45½	45½
Chrysler	48½	49½
Chubb Corp	77½	78½
Cigna Corp	72½	72½
Cincinnati	44½	44½
Circuit City	40½	40½
Coastal Corp	28½	28½
Coca Cola	58½	58½
Colgate-Palmolive	67½	67½
Columbia Gas	29½	29½
Compaq Comp	32½	31½
Comp Ass Int	39½	39½
Conagra	33½	33½
Conrail	33½	33½
Cons Edison	27½	27½
Cons Nat Gas	37½	37½
Cooper Inds	39½	39½
Coming Inc	36½	35½
Crown Cork	43½	43½
Dana Corp	24½	24½
Dayton Hudson	66½	66½
Deere	82½	81¾
Delta Air Lines	63½	63½
Detroit Corp	29½	29½
Detroit Edison	28½	28½
Digital Equip	41½	41½
Dillard Dept St	36½	36½
Disney (Walt)	54½	54½
Dominion Res	36½	36½
Donnelley (RR)	34½	34½
Dover Corp	52½	52½
Dow Chemical	73½	73½
Dow Jones	39½	39½
Dresser	21½	21½
Duke Power	39½	39½
Dun & Bradstreet	52½	52½
Du Pont	82½	82½
Eastman Kodak	53½	53½
Eaton Corp	64½	64½
Emerson Elec	64½	64½
Engelhard Corp	35½	35½
Enron Corp	34	33½
Entergy	21	21
Ethyl Corp	10½	11¼
Exxon Corp	68½	68½
FPL Group	39½	37½
Federal Express	69½	69½
Fed Nat Mtge	64½	63½
First Chicago	51½	51½
First Interstate	79½	79½
First Union Cp	73	74
First Fid Corp	32½	32½
Fluor Corp	48½	48½
Ford Motor	27½	28½
GTE Corp	33½	34
Gannett	51½	52½
Gap Inc/Del	35½	35
Gen Dynamics	47½	47½
Gen Electric	56½	56½
Gen Motors	51½	51½
Gen Reinsurance	133	132½
Gen Signal	35½	35½
Genuine Parts	39½	40
Georgia Pac	80½	81½
Gillette	87½	87½
Glaxo ADR	28½	28
Goodrich (BF)	46	46½
Goodyear Tire	38½	38½
Grace (WR)	54½	54½
Grt Atl Pac Tea	34½	34½
Great West Fin	20½	19½
Halliburton	36½	36½
Harcourt General	40½	40½
Harris (RS)	41½	40½
Hercules	48½	47½
Hershey Foods	53	52½
Hewlett Packard	122½	122½
Hilton Hotels	76	75½
Home Depot	65½	62
Homestake Mng	17½	17½
Honeywell	35½	36½
Household Intl	46½	46½
Howard Johnson	39½	39½
Humana	20½	20½
ITT Corp	100½	100½
Illinois Tool	46½	46½
Illinova	30½	29½
INCO	29½	29
Ingersoll Rand	44½	42
Inland Steel	26½	25½
Intel Corp	90½	91½
IBM	94½	95½
Int Flav & Fr	37	36½
Int Paper	74½	75½
Jersey Ind Sta	39½	39½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	60½	60½
Kellogg	59½	59½
Key McDnl	30½	30½
Kimberly-Clark	51½	51½
Kmart	14½	14½
Knight-Ridder	56½	56½
Litty Eli	75½	75½
Limited Inc	22	22½
LTV Recycling	12½	12½
Lincoln Nat	44½	44½
Limn	35½	35½
Lr Claiborne	28½	28½
Lockheed Martin	59½	59½
Loglstcns Inc	36½	36½
MCI Comm	25½	25½
Marriott Int	35½	35½
Marsh & McLen	61½	62½
Masco Corp	25½	26
May Dept St	36½	36½
Maytag Corp	17½	17½
McDonalds	34½

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Through the glass ceiling

THE 14-strong executive committee of the Halifax, following its merger with the Leeds, will not be an entirely grey-suited affair. Judy Atchison, currently general manager market and product development at the Leeds, smashed through the glass ceiling yesterday when she was appointed director of mortgages and savings for the merged society. The move makes her the building society movement's most powerful woman. But former colleagues predict that she will go yet further. "Approachable and non-elitist" are among the compliments she attracts. The exploitation of household name brands is Atchison's forte. At RHM, where she was marketing director until 1991, Bisto and Hovis were her concern. At the Leeds, she developed the Home Arranger mortgage service and polished the Liquid Gold savings range, so successfully that Liquid Gold will replace the Xtra brand, after the merger. Her fans confidently expect further innovations.

Team toast

THE drinks team at NatWest Securities, still steady on their feet after their annual "on site" inspection, have named the Punch & Judy pub in Covent Garden as their Pub of the Year. Geoff Collyer, Michelle Proud and Graeme Eadie annually invite fund managers on a "tasting and seeing" visit to the outlets of the drinks companies they follow. They started out with a spring in their step at 2pm, and at 8.30pm tottered to the traditional dinner marking the end of their working day. The Punch & Judy won because it was demonstrated that despite limited customer space and heaving crowds, it generates a marvellous return on investment.



"Perhaps British Gas is demerging its pipelines"

Booked out

PUBLISHERS are not noted for being shy, but there is a glaring omission from yesterday's first set of annual figures from Bloomsbury Publishing yesterday. There was no mention of *that* book — *A Princess in Love* — which sold 160,000 copies in three months and was an undoubted profits spinner. Nigel Newton, Bloomsbury's chairman, denied that he was in any way ashamed of the book, which concerned the Princess of Wales. "It attracted a disproportionate amount of coverage, inevitably," he said.

Dressing down

PERHAPS it is just as well the Easter weekend looms and the City is emptying, because today is "dress down" day at that very pukka of investment banks, JP Morgan. It is all on behalf of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, the bank's nominated charity for 1995. This is the first time that JP has ever had a dress down day in London, where 2,600 are employed and where office dress is ever so correct.

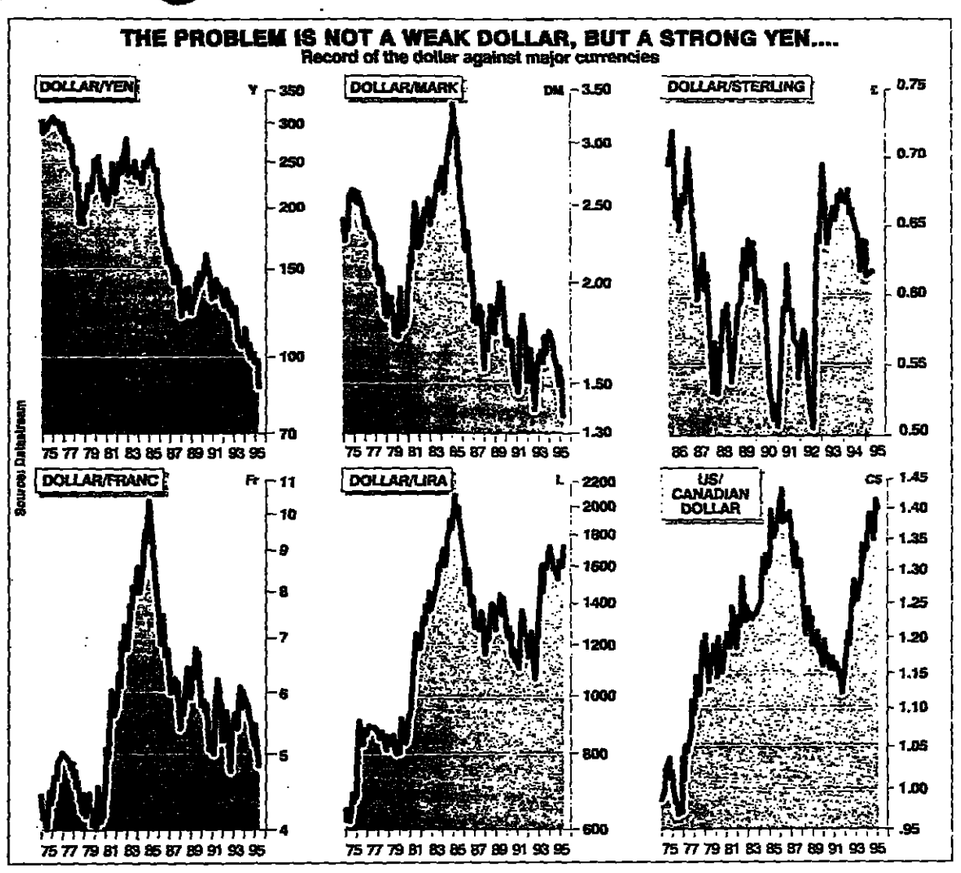
COLIN CAMPBELL



ANATOLE KALETSKY

Tokyo must demonstrate the strength of weakness

Japan's latest economic package could provide a precedent for the management of the global economy



Tomorrow, the Japanese Government will announce its fifth massive package in five years to stimulate the economy, support the Tokyo stock market and stabilise the yen. If the package fails, then Japan will be facing a national disaster that will make the Kobe earthquake look like a minor hiccup, for all its tragic human cost. Failure would open up the very real possibility of the second most powerful nation on Earth — and one whose history has been notable for sudden outbreaks of extremism, barbarism and chauvinist violence — experiencing a 1930s-style economic crash and a political breakdown exemplified by this week's election of two bawdy comedians to run the cities of Osaka and Tokyo.

If, on the other hand, the Japanese are successful and manage to bring down the soaring yen, the whole world will take a big step nearer to achieving financial stability and sensible economic management on a global scale.

The very fact that stakes are so high may force Japanese bureaucrats to defy precedent, sink their petty differences and finally come up with a package that works. The minimal requirement for success will be for the official discount rate to be cut from 1.75 to 1 per cent, a cut which the Bank of Japan foolishly hinted at and then failed to announce last week, triggering the latest currency crisis. But that alone is unlikely to be sufficient.

To be sure of getting the yen back to a reasonable level above 100 to the dollar, the Japanese will have to do more than just cut the discount rate and announce another round of public works programmes. Indeed, if the fiscal stimulus in tomorrow's package helps Japanese industry and banks to live with the deflationary consequences of the strong yen, it could actually be counter-productive. Anything that makes the strong yen less painful will simply encourage markets to keep pushing it higher until the pain becomes unbearable.

To succeed, the Japanese must explicitly and publicly recognise that the dollar-yen exchange rate is not America's problem, but Japan's — and that it is up to Japan alone to deal with it. The Japanese Government and central bank must stop blaming American fiscal policy or trade deficits. They must acknowledge that Japan's trade imbalance is failing to respond to currency movements because of Tokyo's failure to dismantle the regulations and trade barriers that keep out foreign goods. But they must also recognise that any Japanese deregulation programme, just like the US efforts to increase national savings, will take years to achieve results.

In the meantime, therefore, Japan must make clear that it will take all necessary steps to bring down the yen, with or without American support. In practice this would mean an undertaking from the Bank of Japan to flood the foreign exchange markets and Japan's domestic money markets with newly printed yen. In technical jargon, the BoJ must undertake to intervene in the foreign exchanges without limit and promise that the newly printed yen that pay for this intervention will not be withdrawn from the money markets or "sterilised".

How much of this monetary expansion will be needed to bring down the yen is impossible to predict. If there is really a huge demand from Asian central banks to swap their dollar reserves into yen, as discussed on this page yesterday by Anthony Harris, then the BoJ will have to turn on the printing presses at full speed.

If, as I suspect, the global demand for yen would quickly evaporate once the currency started falling, then the BoJ intervention and monetary emission would be quite limited in scope. But the essence of any serious programme to stabilise the yen is that the Japanese authorities should not attempt to make any such prediction. Rather than cutting interest rates gingerly and then cutting again if the yen keeps rising, they must stand ready to supply all the yen the markets demand and to do so without limit. If that means Japanese interest rates dropping to zero, so be it. More likely, interest rates would fall to around 0.5 per cet and then start to rise rapidly as the speculative bubble was finally pricked and the yen collapsed.

Far more important than the precise level of Japanese interest rates or the techniques of currency intervention is the precedent that Japan could set for global co-operation among the G7. The principle behind such co-operation must be that if a currency relationship is becoming unstable the country that must change its economic policy is the one with the strong currency, such as Japan or Germany. The weak currency country should generally sit back and practice "benign neglect".

This principle — that the burden of policy changes should fall on countries with strong currencies, rather than weak ones, may sound paradoxical. But there is nothing inherently desirable about a "strong" currency, nor anything unhealthy about a "weak" one: currency strength and weakness are mere figures of speech.

In fact, history shows that far more economic damage has been done by overvalued currencies than by weak ones. This simple assertion turns on its head one of the main assumptions behind every effort at international economic co-ordination over the past 20 years. This assumption, embodied most clearly in the rules of the ERM, is that countries with weak currencies must do all the adjusting. By contrast, the country with the strongest currency is considered the "anchor" of the system and *ipso facto* its policies are beyond reproach.

This principle, known by economists as "asymmetric adjustment", introduced a strong deflationary bias into every effort to stabilise exchange rates in Europe. It goes a long way to explain the disappointing performance of the European economy in the past 20 years and the disastrous level of unemployment across Europe. The deflationary bias of asymmetric adjustment also explains why all efforts to stabilise currencies have ultimately failed.

In a world economy where the main long-term danger is no longer inflation, but underemployment and failure to assimilate the opportunities of free trade and new technology, it is right that countries with overvalued currencies and over-tight monetary policies should do the adjusting. If Japan accepts its responsibilities tomorrow and announces a bold package it will be striking a blow for better economic policymaking around the world.

cannot plausibly tighten its monetary policy without limit.

The principle that weak currency countries are primarily responsible for adjustment thus breaches two fundamental requirements of any successful international arrangement. They invert global power relations by requiring countries that are satisfied with the status quo (ie, those enjoying weak currencies) to make sacrifices on behalf of those that are suffering (ie, those suffering from currency strength). They also demand that countries with weak currencies commit themselves to obligations which they cannot plausibly fulfil, while imposing no obligations on strong currency countries that can guarantee stability.

The great significance of tomorrow's Japanese package, if it is successful, will be to bury once and for all the dangerous assumption that weak currency countries must be the ones to adjust. The reality, as the Japanese must now acknowledge, and as even the Germans are starting to hint, is that strong currencies very frequently reflect severe economic distortions, including protectionism, unbalanced monetary and fiscal policies, and excessive financial regulation as well as simple speculation. In Japan's case, all these and other economic distortions are behind the rise of the yen — and the Japanese have only themselves to blame for their present problems.

In a world economy where the main long-term danger is no longer inflation, but underemployment and failure to assimilate the opportunities of free trade and new technology, it is right that countries with overvalued currencies and over-tight monetary policies should do the adjusting. If Japan accepts its responsibilities tomorrow and announces a bold package it will be striking a blow for better economic policymaking around the world.

Steering a different course at Daimler-Benz

Colin Narbrough looks at the end of an era at Germany's industrial flagship

Doubtless, Edzard Reuter was glad to be able to confirm rising profits and sales and a higher dividend at Daimler-Benz when he yesterday hosted his final annual results conference as head of Germany's industrial flagship.

But when he relinquishes the management board chairmanship next month, the vision he has pursued of an "integrated technology group" built on the big profits generated for decades by Daimler's Mercedes car arm is set to be abandoned.

"Profit, profit, profit" is how Jürgen Schrempp, 50, head of the group's aerospace division and Herr Reuter's successor, bluntly depicts the future *leitmotif* of the group. The departure of Herr Reuter, with his anchor-man style of corporate leadership, is the end of an era.

To reinforce the change, Gerhard Liener, the finance director, who took flak over Daimler's plunge into the red, is being replaced by Manfred Gentz, the current head of Debis, the group's financial services arm. In spite of the return to the black last year after record losses, Daimler's performance under Herr Reuter's stewardship since 1987 has not been crowned with success. He said from the outset that he would need luck. But his strategic ambitions ran into costly trouble on several fronts and the severe recession heightened his misfortune.

> "The Mercedes star is to be given a new shine"

Job cutting, especially at its German plants where labour costs are among the world's highest, enabled Daimler to show a group net profit of DM1.05 billion last year, after a DM1.84 billion loss in 1993, under US accounting rules. In its drive to achieve global presence, the group in 1993 became the first German company to seek a full New York listing.

For Herr Reuter, a card-carrying Social Democrat, shedding German jobs has not been easy and he was accused of holding on to labour far too long when times were bad. As Helmut Werner, head of Mercedes and one-time favourite to succeed Herr Reuter, put it, the departing chairman's strategy "looked far ahead ... in the meantime, the world has changed".

However well the Mercedes milch cow has performed, in spite of some mistaken models along the way, motor vehicle profits have been unable to restore Daimler to its former robust health. Sales were 7 per cent higher last year at a record DM104 billion, but group operating profit was a modest DM2.70 billion.

However, the burdens remain. They are Dasa, the aerospace division, which Herr Reuter saw as one of the high-technology areas that would ensure Daimler a leading position in the industrial future, and AEG, its industrial holdings arm, which Daimler helped save from collapse in the mid-Eighties.

The end of the Cold War was no help to Dasa, with its strong defence links. Nor was the costly start-up of Airbus, in which it is the German partner. Dasa also acquired a problem that could cost it billions in the form of Fokker, the troubled Dutch aircraft maker.

Herr Reuter remains confident that civil aircraft will still see an upswing to make it all worthwhile. Herr Schrempp, who has been struggling to get Dasa into the black, may be less hopeful. The division's net loss was reduced to DM438 million last year from DM694 million in spite of a fall in sales. No profit is foreseen this year either. Turning round AEG has defied Herr Reuter's efforts throughout his chairmanship and before, when he was finance director.

Having sold off the white goods business to Elektrolux, of Sweden, Daimler this year put AEG's rail division into a joint venture with ABB, the Swiss-Swedish group. The remains are set to go soon.

Oddly, for the head of Daimler, Herr Reuter is said not to have liked cars. His successor has left no doubt where his enthusiasm lies. The Mercedes star is to be given a new shine under his leadership. Car output will be raised sharply.

More jobs are likely to go in Germany under Herr Schrempp, not least at the group's lavish Stuttgart headquarters, or "bullshit castle", as he once called it.



Reuter: bowing out

Eric Reguly says Albacom deal has wider import

New line for BT's world network



Italy is the latest foothold in a global phone campaign

The creation of Albacom, a joint venture between British Telecom and Italy's Banca Nationale del Lavoro, is merely a dress rehearsal for the drama unfolding on a broader stage. For Italy is a secondary prize in the European telecoms sweepstake — the French and German markets are much larger — and BT and BNL said they will spend only £150 million over the next decade to improve Albacom's network. The final figure could well be less; the number seems to have been pulled out of thin air in an effort to add some weight to yesterday's equally thin announcement.

Seen in the broader context, however, the creation of Albacom is significant. For BT, it is another step forward in the race with AT&T, the US telecoms group, to form international alliances. Their goal is to create a seamless, global phone company. The race began in earnest for BT last year when it bought a 20 per cent stake in MCI, the third largest long-distance phone carrier in America, for $4.3 billion. BT and MCI then formed Concert, which offers voice and data networks for international corporations.

In recent months, BT has been rushing to lock up the European market, which it now considers an extension of its "home market", before AT&T can do the same. In January, it formed a joint venture with Viag, the German industrial group, in an effort to wrest corporate customers away from Deutsche Telekom, which loses its monopoly in 1998. BT also has a data communications joint venture with Banco Santander in Spain.

Albacom is similar to the BT-Viag joint venture, only smaller. BNL's telecoms subsidiary, with its countrywide system of voice and data switches, will form the backbone of a new corporate network whose goal is to capture 20 per cent of Italy's £1.7 billion corporate telecoms market. Albacom will market Concert's services in Italy.

Meanwhile, AT&T has taken a somewhat different approach. Instead of forming alliances with industrial and financial groups that aspire to launch commercial telecoms subsidiaries, it has, for the most part, gone after established carriers. The equity partners in its two-year-old WorldPartners alliance includes KDD, Japan's largest overseas carrier, and Singapore Telecom.

WorldPartners, in turn, has formed a joint venture with Unisource, an amalgam of European phone companies whose owners include Spanish Telefónica, Swedish Telia and Dutch KPN.

While both BT and AT&T have made considerable progress in carving up the world, huge blank spots remain. AT&T lacks a partner in Germany, Europe's richest telecoms market, and neither has presence in France.

Asia beckons as well. The Holy Grail is NTT of Japan, the world's biggest telecoms company. NTT has taken WorldSource on a six-month trial, but could end up with either AT&T or BT, or even both, in the long term.

The rivalry between AT&T and BT is bound to intensify. AT&T denies it is engaged in an outright war, but admits to some pressure. Robert Brookes, the company's spokesman in Brussels, said: "Both of us are faced with a set of customers with needs for global solutions."

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Futures pull shares higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
490	415	Abbey Nat	476½	– 2½	4.7	10.3
290	250	Allied Irish	290	– 14	4.8	8.4
233	198	Aus New Z	230	+ 2	5.1	8.2
3150	2531	Bank America	3100	– 25		
230	191½	Bank Scotland	224½	– ½	3.0	12.7
681	557½	Barclays	661	+ 15	4.0	7.2
335	288	Br Arab Hold	324	+ 3	4.4	9.4
465	318	Cater Allen	461	+ 3	7.7	9.5
2831½	2450	Citicorp	2787½	– 12½		
262	219	Close Brost	261		3.8	11.8
2150½	1620½	Commerzbk	2139½	– 50½	3.9	
1.75	99½	De Ishi Kan Y	172½	– 1½	0.5	
2317½	2295	Deutsche Bk	2304½	+ 96½	2.4	
856½	672½	Espirito Santo	852½	+ 3½	12.4	
1485	1192½	Fuji Bank Y	1404	– ½	0.5	
490	395	Gerrard Nat	416		7.2	12.0
253	195	Hambros	252	– 6	8.8	13.0
1168	988	HSBC	1146	+ 6	4.3	9.1
725	578	HSBC Hld	721	+ 7	4.5	9.2
408	383	Ipswich Bld	395		6.0	10.6
113	86	King Shaxson	89	– 2	12.6	9.8
663	529	Kleinwort Benz	647	+ 4	2.7	13.7
641	530	Lloyds	629	+ 4	5.1	10.5
560	452	Nat Aust Bk	550	+ 4	5.1	9.3
856	652	Nat Westl	840	– 10½	4.9	9.3
2400	2150	Ottoman Bank	2375		6.5	3.3
67	55	Rea Brost	66		7.6	
429	370	Rlt Bk Scot	425	+ 7	4.0	12.2
1565	1350	Schlesinger	1550	+ 17	2.3	18.1
1403	1205	Schroders NVT	1405	+ 8	1.8	13.3
89½	82	Singer & Fried	89½		5.5	
304	246	Stand Charrt	296½	+ 6½	3.4	8.9
254½	217	TSB	245	+ 3½	4.6	10.5
93	78	Ulster	92		5.7	
784	655	Wasburg BG	745	+ 11	3.7	13.6
2181½	9043½	Wells Fargo	21600½	+ 125½	2.9	
237½	211	Westpac	237½	+ 3	2.4	
335	300	Wintrust	335		6.5	13.7

BREWERIES

172	143	Accst Hldgs	149			
564	487	Bass	555½	– ½	4.7	13.7
271	238	Boddingtn	269	– 1	4.1	13.8
172	151	Brkmond Bre	161		4.0	13.5
170	137	Chongs P. R	153	+ 3	4.3	18.9
69	51	Forted Brewing	54	+ 1	5.2	13.7
398	336	Fuller Sm 'A'	382		3.7	15.0
461	402	Greenalls Grp	426		3.6	14.8
522	466	Grtr Manch	510	– 1	4.3	14.6
267	240	Hardy Hanon	262		4.9	11.8
186	150	Highgate	150		3.6	11.2
3425	2963	Holt J	3388		1.8	18.6
248	219	Marchfield	246		4.1	13.4
312	266	Morlan Thmp	309		2.6	14.3
465	400	Morland	465		3.9	13.4
2¾	6½	Paramount	2	+ ¼	3.9	18.9
344	307	Regent Inns	344		5.1	19.7
1787½	1287½	SA Breweries	1661½	– 19½	1.7	26.9
543	498	Scot & Newc	540	+ 1	4.6	15.5
233	211	Wadw Group	228	+ 1	5.3	13.3
60	50	Wadw Hldgs	60	+ 2	3.3	14.7
172½	121	Whitbread	165½	– 2	4.3	15.2
527	483	Wolverhmptn D	505½	– 3	3.5	13.1
268	186	Yates Bros	265		2.1	19.2
465	450	Young 'A'	456		4.1	19.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

150	125	Abbey	126		5.2	9.1
161	143	Allen	153		4.6	14.3
78	56	Amec	71		5.6	
167	133	Andrews Sykes	158			
453	417	Ashtead	433	+ 1	1.7	18.5
105	87	Ayscough	97	– 2	6.3	
38	34	Bailey (Geo Cbo	34		3.9	
45	36	Barcon	37			
195½	158	Barratt Devel	184	– 1	4.4	12.9
149	122	Beazer Homes	137		4.9	10.2
214	180	Belway	214		4.1	12.7
37	27	Bellwinch	31	– 1	0.8	16.6
378	315	Berkeley Gp	378		2.4	12.0
178	158	Bett Bros	168		3.3	5.2
245	196	Bovis (Henry)	200		4.2	9.8
128	93	Brandon Hire	126		1.8	11.7
180	152	Br Bldg & Engr	179		8.0	11.2
134	105	Br Polyth	129	– 1½	5.1	11.8
116	98	CALA	116		3.5	13.2
34	29	Campbell & Arm	35			
54	46	Clarke Tr	52		9.6	12.9
24½	19	Costain	13½			
110	85	Countryside	98	+ 2	5.4	12.4
87	71	Crest Nicholson	75	– 1	3.5	10.5
98	80	Cussons	85		5.5	
26	18	Edmund Hdgs	20		5.0	
575	398	Eve Brand	510		6.5	8.6
99	71	Galliford	71½		5.8	
90	65	Gibbs & Dandrf	88		2.2	
863	626	Gleeson (M J)	835		2.2	15.6
86	70	Green (Cmstr)	81		4.9	19.0
206	178	Hanlock Exm	206		1.8	18.9
178	138	Hewden-Stuart	174	– 1	2.4	16.9
93	73	Higgs & Hill	78		3.1	
22	17	Howard Hdgs	17		5.9	13.0
11	8¾	Jarvis	9			
117	99	Kelsrt	98		3.0	
223	186	Laing (J)	200		5.6	
97	80	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	86		9.4	
124	115	Lon Chesterfld	117		5.7	12.4
61	35	Lovell (J)	40		3.1	4.9
210	185	Maunders Ldt	185		3.7	10.2
181	136	McAlpine (A)	152	+ 5	5.1	
60	48	McCarthy & S	52			18.3
61	51	Morgan Sindall	51			
106	79	Mowlem (J)	98½		3.1	41.3
205	163	Pecksemmt	198	+ 1	6.0	12.7
2400	1780	Persimr	1709½		3.4	12.0
126	105	Pilkng	113		4.0	17.2
53	33	Rmc Invt	37	+ ½	10.1	6.4
48	45	Secure Retire	45			14.6
118	98	Redmyr	112		3.0	13.1
60	49	Smith Pve	57	+ 4	2.0	
200	262	Sheriff Hdgs	262		4.6	15.2
117½	88	Sharpe	98	– 1	4.5	
316	256	Scandia	256		1.1	
176	158	Tay Homes	159		3.2	11.1
130	114	Taylor Woodrow	128½	+ ½	3.3	21.6
580	452	Tilbury Dougls	465		3.2	
56½	52	Tores Hire	52		3.0	19.3
29	16	Tty Group	16		6.9	25.3
109	104	Vigrcpnt	107		4.4	19.2
116	97	Walkernes	112	– 1	5.4	12.7
60	50	Ward Hdgs	58		3.9	7.9
146	139	Westbury	145		3.7	13.2
9½	3¾	Wiggins	4			
163	124	Wilson (Cn)	153	– 3	3.7	11.3
345	306	Wilson Bowdn	343	+ 3	3.7	17.0
133	113	Wimpey Gr	133	+ 4	5.2	16.4

BUILDING MATERIALS

14	7½	Alingtnpor	9		6.9	15.2
343	333	Aluminum	333		2.5	16.7
52	47	Amperray Gp	50	– 1	3.1	55.7
304	247	APH Ind	288	– 1	3.1	14.8
131	122	Baggeridge Brk	131		3.0	13.5
36	27	Bardon	31	– 1	8.4	
71	55	Blackfrys	69		7.7	
316	255	Blue Circle†	298	– 2½	5.0	16.1
84	72	Breedon (FLC)	80		7.5	
136	124	Br Dredging	124	– 3	5.6	
377	306	CRH	376		2.7	
46	38	Calcaraac Rtv	38		3.9	
210	198	Cape	198		6.9	14.4
273	220	Caradbert	256		4.6	12.9
135	114	Cavadon Gt	126½	– 2	7.2	
55	31	Charlton Grp†	31		12.1	11.5
24	17	Chester (JBJ)	19½		4.6	15.2
72	63	Dycon 'A	63		6.9	9.5
15½	11½	Eclipse Blnds	15½			
310	274	Epwin	309		3.6	
62	37	Ertnit	41		4.9	
187	160	Gaston Grp	165		4.8	
344	312	Halstead Ut	333	– 2	3.6	14.3
313	282	Hepworth	307	+ 1	6.0	14.3
85	80	Hinerton	80		2.3	13.9
108½	78	Hmrst Ut	78		2.8	
368	239	Heywd Wmn	252	+ 7	6.9	11.9
85	75	Ibstock	82	– 1	1.5	
306	262	Johnston	295	+ 3	4.3	
108	85	Lilleshall	85		7.1	10.2
137½	118	Marley†	125	+ 1	4.0	11.1
140	123	Marshalls	138	– 1	4.0	12.4
371	269	Meyer Int	337	+ 7	4.0	13.1
178	160	Newman Tstrt	165		5.1	11.6
108	76	Norcros	79		11.1	15.0
72	62	Pharma Timber	70			2.8
178	153	Pilkington	176	+ 3	2.8	33.9
158	123	Pongrnt	147	– 2	2.8	15.5
1053	962	RMC Gp	1024	– 32	2.9	14.7
18	8	Rachus	9			
470	414	Redland	443	– 2	4.8	13.7
122	95	Rodel	116		4.9	16.8
133	104	Rugby Group†	122		3.7	15.1
83	68	Ryobi (A)	83		3.6	
262	202	SHP	243		3.1	
19	11	SMP	15		1.7	
180	173	Sharpe & Fisher†	174		3.6	
41½	36	Sisnng Rnn	39		1.6	
180	154	Tarmac	1147½	– 1½	6.1	14.4
168	154	Titon	154	– 1	3.7	12.4
298	275	Travis Perkins†	289		3.9	
26	24	Tudor	26	+ 1	2.2	28.0
48	34	Unigroup	39			
53	33	Waterhouse	35	– 2		
111	83	Wates	107		2.7	9.1
400	324	Wellaway	357	– 2	3.2	12.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

2	1½	Anglo Utd	1½			
64	57	Aqs Hldg	63			
7¾	6½	Bailey (Ch)	7			
42	42	Black Arrow	42		92	67
84	69	Bk Brookfldr	70			42.5
6	4	Cent Gp	4½	– 1	15.8	
4¾	4¼	Chemns	4½		2.8	14.1
148	135	Cpsall	143	+ 3	7.0	9.6
233	215	Filofax	233		1.1	20.0
43	28	Hadden	28		3.1	21.8
162	142	Hemnck	158	+ 1	3.2	14.3
199	182	Lekgh	197½	– 1	7.1	12.7
231	142	Mono Gp	142		5.5	9.2
265	210	Pizza-Me	234	+ 4	2.6	22.7
65	53	Plant & Gen	62		3.5	
7	7	Rdonic & McKeon	7			
344	307	Reed Intnl	344		3.9	18.9
1787½	1287½	SA Breweries	1661½	– 19½	1.7	26.9
543	498	Scot & Newc	540	+ 1	4.6	15.5
233	211	Wadw Group	228	+ 1	5.3	13.3
60	50	Ward Hdgs	60	+ 2	3.3	14.7
146	139	Westbury	145		3.7	13.2
9½	3¾	Wiggins	4			
163	124	Wilson (Cn)	153	– 3	3.7	11.3
345	306	Wilson Bowdn	343	+ 3	3.7	17.0
133	113	Wimpey Gr	133	+ 4	5.2	16.4

CHEMICALS

131	109	Allied Colloids	129	+ 1	3.3	16.2
785	780	Amber Ind	783		3.4	15.5
5141½	4125½	BASF Dfd	5127½	+ 6½	3.5	
742	669	BOC	733	– 2	4.2	17.5
360	299	BTP	355	– 2	5.3	14.4
5158½	4141½	Bayer DM50	5148½	– 43½	3.9	
116	103	Blagden	116		1.6	54.3
114	101	Brent Chemist	113		4.6	
268	210	Br Vita†	256	+ 2	3.7	17.2
92	80	Cambridge Isc	87	+ 4		
214	184	Canning (W)	205	+ 4	4.6	
474	401	Chemikalia	452	– 2	4.0	31.5
347½	330	Croda†	337	+ 13	3.3	16.3
189	129	Dowlais†	188		3.9	
83	59	Euro Colour	83	+ 1	2.6	24.0
122	114	Gibbons	114		6.0	10.5
145	128	Hickson†	141	– 1	4.4	
5143½	4127½	Hoechst	5139½	– 84½	4.0	
212	190	Holliday Chmtr†	197		3.2	14.7
799	660	ICI†	755	+ 6	4.6	33.7
139	97	Ilukon	139		4.1	13.5
722	620	Laporte†	714	+ 5	3.9	15.5
85	79	MTM†	83		2.3	14.5
303	293	Mondrnt	301	+ 3	4.2	15.6
95	20	Morgnd	95		9.4	8.2
468½	382½	Monsnbtsn	392	+ 1½	4.6	19.5
320	290	Ponsnrt	320		1.9	20.8
270½	189	Scapa	210½		3.5	17.1
33	16	Sutcliffe Speak	19		4.6	11.3
816½	695½	Tatesa Chem	816½	+ 9	1.3	14.3
350	315	Wardle Storeys	325		6.7	15.9
193	165	Wellington Hldgs	186		3.7	
788	733	Wigmalme Rf	733		4.2	15.6
368	325	Yorks Chem	338		3.2	15.1
383	236	Yule Catto	263	+ 13	3.1	

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
105	91	AGI Ltrs	95	+ 2	5.3	10.9
595	535	Adam & Harvey	550		3.5	9.9
21	18	Alexanderst	20		6.2	9.6
113	88	Appleyard	107		6.8	
¾	½	Ass Br Eng	¾		17	26.8
555	510	BSS Group	555		4.1	19.6
24½	20½	Bicentrl Power	21		6.0	19.8
345	290	Bogod 'A'	345	+ 1	3.5	19.5
363	345	Brammer	362		4.7	
17	10½	Bourgord Gp	15		1.7	78.0
316	85	Brt Fibrelgs†	95		5.8	
49	39	Brown & Tawse	49	+ 1	7	
38	32	Bunzlers	37		3.5	13.6
270	215	Caffyns	268	+ 2	6.0	39.4
88	66	Central Mtr	86		4.6	11.5
42	35	Cook (DC)	40		4.8	11.0
111	97	Europcar Mtr	109		4.3	11.4
369	220	Evans	369		4.3	
163	135	Dag Motors	147½	– 7½	4.4	24.5
588	512	Farnell Elect	588	+ 1	1.7	34.1
49	38	Flt Invstr'▼	46		7.8	
615	48	Gardner	45		4.5	10.1
24	16	Glenchrome	16			10.2
23	21	Glenmorg	21		4.8	13.3
73	62	Hoton Hldgs†	70		1.8	13.4
172	148	Harris (Philip)	166	– 1	5.2	14.6
304	258	Henryst	304	+ 6	3.5	14.1
98	81	Holdens Textl	89		8.2	
110	88	ISA Intl	89		6.7	
400	274	Jacksonsdr	317	+ 10	5.9	12.3
56	53	Jacks (Wm)	56			13.4
167	142	Kwik-Fit	143		3.8	14.2
338	277	Lex Service	334		5.2	17.8
158	134	Lookers	156		3.8	9.2
15	14	Mabey Dgt	14½		3.4	34.5
6	5¾	Modtrans ⊕	6		1.1	
435	335	Norcros	337	– 2	9.8	15.0
98	78	Northcross	81		2.1	20.1
152	125	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
283	225	Pendragon†	281		4.3	
141	123	Perry Gp	141		6.9	
135	126	Quicks Group	135		5.2	
171	160	REA	170		4.4	35.2
6	2½	Reece	5			
	2½	Rose Gp	5		5.0	
398	306	Sdth Sm 'A'	382		2.8	15.8
461	402	Simpsons Gp	426		3.6	14.8
550	466	Smith (H)	550		3.6	14.8
213	151	Vardy (Reg)†	213	+ 2	3.1	15.9
245	240	Wholesale Fgs	245	+ 1	6.8	21.8
98	71	Wilkn (J)	97		4.6	25.8
48	40½	Brierley Inv†	45½	+ ½	9.3	2.6
830	743	Chantry	819	+ 1	3.7	13.8
2350	1810	Dickson▼	2350		2.9	16.6
1425	1255	Dpg (Malcm)	1390		6.3	
588	572	Dwsons El	572		3.5	14.2
490	408	Diploma	490	+ 3	3.9	15.3
5350	472	Electrocomponts	5345	+ 6	3.4	21.7
173	151	Electrnic House	169		2.7	13.7
265	234	Elec & Eastrn	263	+ 1	6.1	15.9
171	97	Europice Mtr	169		5.4	11.4
401	364	Evans Halshaw†	398	+ 5	5.0

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John Power calls for a UK review of the tax position on acquired goodwill

Better off not buying British

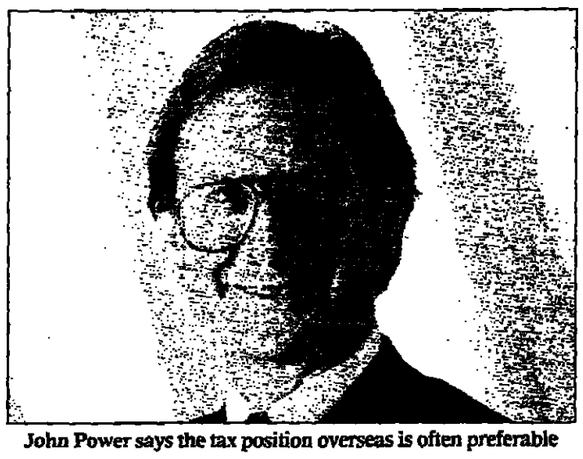
Tax incentives are an important part of the calculations for any acquisition-hungry group. When a UK business is bought, as distinct from a purchase of a company, many of the capital assets acquired attract tax relief. As well as the familiar allowances for industrial buildings, plant and machinery, allowances are also given for acquisitions of patents and certain know-how.

It is possible that the most expensive item on the shopping list will not be an identifiable asset at all – it will represent the difference between the fair values of identifiable assets acquired and the consideration paid. This is goodwill, for which no tax relief is available in the UK. There is also no relief for expenditure on identifiable intangibles such as customer lists, trademarks, and trade names.

The same is true in a company/share purchase. There is no relief because the expenditure is regarded as capital for the purposes of tax law and, accordingly, cannot be deducted to arrive at the trading profits, nor are there any tax depreciation allowances available. In a company purchase, all the expenditure is regarded as being attributable to the shares, also a capital asset.

In both these cases, this acquired goodwill (as opposed to internally generated goodwill) has led to an outflow of cash.

The tax position overseas is strikingly different and often preferable. US taxpayers have always enjoyed a more flexible regime for dealing with intangibles. Until the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act 1993, taxpayers could in general amortise acquired intangibles, where they had a determinable life. No relief was, however, allowed for acquired goodwill as it could not have a determinable life.



John Power says the tax position overseas is often preferable

The 1993 Act changed this to allow a 15-year amortisation of most types of intangibles such as goodwill, information bases, know-how, customer lists, licences, franchises, and trademarks. Thus a UK company making an asset purchase of a US business will be able to reduce its federal tax burden by amortising the capital costs of its intangibles. An acquisition by the UK company itself may negate the benefit of the US tax saved through further UK tax payable. This can be avoided by using a US resident company to make the acquisition.

Even where shares of a US company are acquired, it may still be possible to obtain relief against US tax for goodwill and other intangibles. Basically, where the target is a member of a US group then a joint election between the vendor and the purchaser treats the target as though it had disposed of and reacquired its assets (including goodwill) at market value. Depreciation is then based on the "stepped up" market value of the assets. The gain on the rebasing is recognised by the vendor although it may be offset by brought forward losses and unused tax credits.

Many countries in the European Union also allow relief for purchased intangibles. In Germany, a purchaser of assets may amortise goodwill for tax purposes over 15 years and other intangibles over a shorter period. As in the US, it should be possible to effectively step up a company's assets where shares are acquired. Other EU countries that allow tax depreciation for intangibles in an asset purchase include Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Luxembourg, and The Netherlands.

Accordingly, there are significant opportunities and incentives for the UK investor to generate tax deductions in respect of goodwill and other intangibles from an asset purchase of a foreign business and possibly a share purchase. In this way, the UK investor can often better its return (in cash terms) over a comparable UK investment.

To encourage more investment in the UK, perhaps it is time for the authorities to review the tax position on goodwill and offer companies a clear incentive to buy British.

The author is international tax partner at Touche Ross

Voice of reason on derivatives

IN the profession's headlong rush to judgment over how it should deal with the threat of derivatives, it is always useful to listen to what might be a still, small voice of reason. One such emerged last week at the annual gathering of the British Accounting Association at Bristol Business School. Professor S. P. Kothari, of the University of Rochester, New York, suggested that, on the basis of his research, derivatives were a good thing the risk of which rational people could happily control.

He started from a position of warning about excessive regulation. "By and large, the markets have been working well," he said in conversation after his address. "But politicians do like to be seen to be saviours." Hence the pressure for instant regulatory solutions.

He takes the view it is abuse of derivatives, rather than their existence that needs to be sorted out. His research has been into the use of derivatives by 425 US financial and non-financial corporations. Part of the research has been into how far companies are using derivatives for risk-management, and how far they are using them for speculation. The result of the research into risk characteristics of the participating companies is simple. There was no significant difference between those who used derivatives and those who did not. The assumption is that people are, despite the headlines, using derivatives to reallocate existing risk.



ROBERT BRUCE

And when someone abuses the system, he said, who loses? Looking at the Barings debacle he argued that "the current system has concentrated the costs on the people who speculated excessively and violated exchange rules". As for the markets, "While Leeson's position as an individual trader was ridiculously large, his market share was just too small to have a material impact on prices, or volatility."

For Professor Kothari, there are two important points. One is disclosure and the other is internal control. He said: "There is woefully little disclosure, particularly in European markets." That is being dealt with by the various strands of the accounting profession, and there has been much co-operation, particularly between UK and US bodies.

Regulation, he argued, would be better provided not by politicians looking for a quick fix, but instead by letting the market do the work. "While the spectacular collapse of Barings causes many to focus on the costs of derivatives and potential benefits from regulation, they should not ignore the private incentives of the derivatives market participants. The brokers, traders and owners of the exchanges on which derivative securities are traded have a strong interest in ensuring that a market disruption does not occur."

But in the end, it is internal control where the main pressure can be brought to bear. He said: "The internal and external auditors of a company must understand whether the company, through its derivative positions, is hedging its transaction exposures and economic exposures. This means accountants must discriminate between the risk management and speculative uses of derivatives."

Professor Kothari argued that a system of internal control, which the outside world recognised as supremely effective, should be installed wherever derivatives were being used. The problem is auditors are loth to insist they should police such a system. Until they are willing to force directors into a statement on the effectiveness of internal control, the debate comes to an unsatisfactory halt.

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■ FILM 1

An unsubtle Aussie melodrama of a movie, *Muriel's Wedding* goes after laughter and tears in equal measure



■ FILM 2

. . . while in New Zealand, *Once Were Warriors* portrays Maoris stranded in an urban landscape

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ FILM 3

A creditable acting debut by Janet Jackson, as LA kids do the decent thing in *Poetic Justice*



■ FILM 4

Alain Delon, jury president, awards top prize to the British at the Cognac Festival of Thrillers

Shotgun of a wedding

CINEMA: Something nasty in the scenario brings about a divorce between **Geoff Brown** and *Muriel's Wedding*

Muriel's Wedding
Warner West End
15, 106 mins
Emotional rollercoaster from Australia

Once Were Warriors
Warner West End
18, 105 mins
Forceful tale of Maoris in the urban ghetto

Poetic Justice
MGM Trocadero
15, 109 mins
Over-ambitious romantic odyssey

The Little Rascals
Plaza, U, 83 mins
Tame revival of the Our Gang characters

She describes herself as fat, stupid and useless. Her father calls her a no-hoper, with no job, no skills. To her old high school friends she is an embarrassment. When she catches the bouquet at a wedding, she is asked to throw it at someone else: nobody could possibly marry Muriel Heslop. But she proves them wrong, for the film — Australia's biggest local hit last year — is called **Muriel's Wedding**.

If John Waters, that chronicler of American bad taste, ever made a film in the Australian suburbs, it would have to look like *Muriel's Wedding*. The wallpaper alone in Porpoise Spit, the "Jewel of the North Coast" where Muriel lives, could cause a migraine, while the clothes people wear singe the eyeballs. Props grow more garish still when Muriel escapes to a Pacific island, where she finds a pal in the ebullient Rhonda, and holidaymakers strew themselves with the pinkest of flowers and purple sun tops with fake orange crabs perched on each breast.

The film's writer and director, P.J. Hogan, is the husband of Jocelyn Moorhouse, who made her name with *Proof*. Hogan's own first feature shares some of its technical crew, but nothing else. *Proof* was a sophisticated, unsentimental, intriguing drama. This ugly-duckling-into-swan saga goes after laughter and tears with the finesse of a bull in a china shop.

In its early stages, the film gallops along pleasurably enough. Although the humour stays cruel, you still relish Muriel's ghastly home life with her affable but conniving father, the mother living on her nerves, and her slovenly heap of a younger sister. Hogan has a caricaturist's gift.

But once Muriel and Rhonda decamp to Sydney, the film turns aggressively melodramatic. While Muriel pursues her fantasy life through bridal catalogues and a dalliance with a crass Prince Charming, one character is stricken with cancer and another commits suicide. Hogan yanks our feelings this way and that, abusing us as much as the characters in his need to boost Muriel's self-esteem and create his swan.

Toni Collette makes a fair attempt at keeping Muriel a human being. Aussie movie regular Bill Hunter is an amusing presence as the two-timing father. But it is newcomer Rachel Griffiths who survives best as Rhonda, the target for Hogan's most outrageous slings and arrows. A film of which to be wary.

We stay in the antipodes for **Once Were Warriors**, the New Zealand film that broke all New Zealand's box-office records. Lee Tamahori's forceful film uses the photographer, and indeed the tattooist, employed on Jane Campion's *The Piano*, though its vision of New Zealand could not be more different. The opening shot of pretty greenery is revealed as an image on a motorway billboard: this is a story of urban Maori alienation, set in a squalid, tree-less Auckland landscape.

Jake, Beth and their children are the lead characters. You would not want to be neighbours. Jobless, volcanic Jake favours impromptu parties: when the volcano erupts he kicks his dutiful wife, or pushes her head into a mirror. One child is sent to reform school; another joins the local gang, while sensitive 12 year-old Grace grows increasingly vulnerable.

Tamahori, a veteran director of commercials, gives his first feature the kind of hard edge and visual intensity that Hollywood loves. And what Hollywood loves, it buys: Tamahori is now in Los Angeles directing Nick Nolte in a period thriller, *Mulholland Falls*. It would be a crime if he stays put, for there is a jangling vibrancy to his treatment of New Zealand life.

At home the film, like its source novel by Alan Duff, stirred controversy by presenting Maoris as violent drunks. But Tamahori's eye for a striking image, and the powerful cast, led by Rena Owen *(see interview right)* and Temuera Morrison, overcome many obstacles. This is a powerful, unsettling work.

John Singleton, the young director of *Boyz N the Hood*, returns to Britain this week with his second film, **Poetic Justice**, now two years old. The title alone suggests trouble ahead, for Justice is the heroine's name, and the girl writes poetry. She also chews gum, tends heads at a beauty salon in South Central Los Angeles, and nurses personal grudges against guns and booze. On top of all that, she is the singer Janet Jackson, making her acting debut.

Anxious to preach the message that crime does not pay, Singleton forgoes ample bloodshed for the romantic odyssey of two souls finding each other. Justice joins her hero-in-waiting, a postal worker called Lucky (Tupac Shakur), on a fraught road trip from LA to Oakland. They bicker, gatecrash a family celebration ("We're black, we're all family"), tour the stalls at an African fair, draw closer, and separate.

This central journey is engaging enough, although Singleton only reaches it after several false starts. And the characters' force is constantly compromised by the limitations of Singleton's script. The film drifts: one scene leaves no mark on the next. Justice's poetry — the real stuff, supplied by Maya Angelou — brings problems of its own, wrapping scenes in a portentous haze that further obscures the character's profile.

Considering the out-takes included at the end, the chief achievement of **The Little Rascals** was in getting made at all. Time after time, the preening tots enrolled in Penelope Spheeris's valiant reprise of the *Our Gang* shorts stumble over dialogue, or ruin a take by staring at the camera. Directing punk rockers in her documentary *The Decline of Western Civilisation* must have been child's play by comparison.

The project clearly hit trouble even before the cameras rolled. Five writers were needed to revive the characters from Hal Roach's 1930s shorts. Even so the story, about a forbidden romance and a stolen go-kart, scarcely fills up an hour-and-a-half. Ostensibly contemporary, the film is lost in a timewarp, where children remain innocent imps in bow ties, braces, plaid shirts and dungarees.



"If John Waters, that chronicler of American bad taste, ever made a film in the Australian suburbs, it would have to look like *Muriel's Wedding*"

Warrior in the wasteland

The first Maori star, Rena Owen tells **David Robinson** about how her art changed New Zealand life

Rena Owen descended upon London for last year's film festival with all the exotic aura attached to the first-ever Maori film star. It was not the first time in London for the star of *Once Were Warriors*, though. She lived here in the 1980s, her experiences including jobs as an usherette and a waitress — plus a stretch in Holloway Prison.

Until she was 18 she never even saw a city. "My dad was a full-blooded Maori who married a *pakeha* [Western] woman," she says. "At 18 I went to Auckland to train as a nurse. I never dreamed of taking up acting. But for a clever Maori girl the only possible jobs then were secretary, nurse or teacher.

"I arrived in London in 1982, thinking I knew everything. My Australian flatmate turned out to be a heroin addict. Soon I was doing drugs too. One day my dealer was out of stuff, so I drove her over to another place to get some. It turned out to be under surveillance. No sooner were we back in her flat than the police showed up.

"Naively, I just told the truth, even though I had nothing on me. So they charged me on my own statement. I was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

"Prison gave me the time I needed to get myself straight. I fought to get counselling, and the therapy put me in touch with a lot of emotions I hadn't realised, and gave me the need to express myself. I started to write, and I also decided to start acting. I had lucky breaks. I enrolled for evening classes at the Actors' Institute, then I auditioned for a New Zealand play by Hilary Beaton, which happened to be about a woman in prison. The play went to the Edinburgh Festival and toured for the next eight or ten months."

Returning to New Zealand at the end of the 1980s was not easy: "I had to re-learn my accent for a start, because I talked like a Londoner. And it was a problem being half-caste. If I went for European roles they said I was too dark, and if I tried for Maori parts they said I was too European. There's still terrible stereotyping in New Zealand: seeing *The Piano*, you might think Maoris lived in trees and carried pianos all day."

Still, she soon progressed to leading roles in television and theatre, and landed a supporting part in Kevin Costner's film *Rapa Nui*. "I went to Easter Island on a two-month contract and stayed there for five months, living in luxury, but never working. It's heart-breaking the amount of money Hollywood wastes on films: *Rapa Nui* cost $160m. *Once Were Warriors* cost around £600,000, and it earned more than *Jurassic Park* in New Zealand.

"I'm unlikely ever to get a better part than *Once Were Warriors*. In New Zealand the film will finally be remembered, not for its box-office, but for its social impact. Two or three weeks after it was released the help lines were inundated with calls, and women's refuge groups were overflowing. Women and men were saying: 'I've got a *Warriors* problem.' The film gave them licence to talk about these things."

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ONCE WERE WARRIORS
AT A CINEMA NEAR YOU FROM TOMORROW

Spirit of murder and mayhem

Richard Gilbert reports from a quiet French town in the grip of an international cinematic crime wave

Cognac is normally a placid, attractive town in south-west France known for its Romanesque churches and cobbled streets covered in signposts that look like a tippler's fantasy — Martell, Rémy Martin, Hennessy. But for four days every April the Cognac Festival du Film Policier transforms the town into the headquarters of screen murder, mayhem, violence and suspense.

This curious partnership between international thriller films and the drink of cognac began in 1982. The town wanted to raise its profile and, like almost every town in France, decided to host a themed film festival. As none of the 300 other French film festivals specialised in thrillers, Cognac's annual celebration of the genre took off, helped over the years by the presence of craggy American stars like Robert Mitchum, Lee Marvin, Ray Milland and Charles Bronson.

Alongside the main competition for new thrillers, there are dozens of short films, TV police dramas, all-night showings, retrospectives and tributes to international directors and stars. Unlike most other festivals, in Cognac the films take over the whole town and local people support it with street processions and musical events.

Appropriately, the president of this year's jury was Alain Delon who, for the French, is still the definitive vulnerable film hero. He and his fellow-jurors for the first time awarded the Cognac Grand Prix to a British film, *Shallow Grave*, which is being released soon in France under the title, *Petits Meurtres Entre Amis*. The film also picked up the Prix du Public which, democratically, gives all the local cinema-goers a chance to vote for their favourite film in the festival.

The Critics' Prize went to *Sonatine*, Takeshi Kitano's elegiac and nightmarish study of clan warfare among the "yakuzas" of Japan. Kitano's impressive acting in his own film, playing the right-hand man of a yakuza leader, was one of the most haunting performances of the festival. Quentin Tarantino's frequent tributes to Kitano underline the influence that this Japanese director has had.

The most original American film shown in Cognac was *Saints and Sinners*, directed by Paul Mones. The traditional story of an undercover, gang-busting cop was transformed by Mones's direction and screenplay. A realistic portrait of the drug milieu in Los Angeles, it was awarded the Special Prize by the jury.

Some of the best films to be seen this year were part of a stylish tribute to French thrillers, marking the Lumière centenary of cinema's history. A Maigret adaptation from 1932 and classics directed by Clouzot, Chabrol and Truffaut were a reminder that successful thrillers can combine suspense with subtlety.

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NEIL NORMAN - EVENING STANDARD



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Simon Rattle gives Birmingham a heavyweight dose of *Parsifal*, leavened by a little Mozart



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THE TIMES ARTS



THEATRE 1

After ten years of silence, Sam Shepard has written *Simpatico*, a diverting play about horse-racing



THEATRE 2

Who is telling the truth about the old lady's history? Michel Tremblay explores memory in his new drama

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

UNDER MILK WOOD. Opening night for Roger Michell, directing Dylan Thomas's justly celebrated evocation of the little town of Llareggub. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7pm. Then Apr 15-18, 7.15pm, mat Sat, 2pm

PIANO, ORCHESTRA AND BAND: The Michael Nyman Band combines forces with the Philharmonia Orchestra and pianist Kathryn Stott for a powerhouse performance, as part of the "Nyman on the South Bank" series. Tonight's programme features *The Piano Concerto* and the UK premiere of *MGV — Musique a Grande Vitesse*, a work written to celebrate the opening of the high-speed rail link to Lille. **Festival Hall**, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm

THREE FACES OF VIENNA. Jane Glover conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for a programme of Schoenberg's symphonic poem for strings, *Verklärte Nacht*, Strauss's *Four Last Songs* and Mozart's Symphony No 41, *Jupiter*. Soprano Christine Brewer is the soloist.

Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

BRISTOL: Andy Hay directs *Flarepath*, Rattigan's RAF drama. Heatings, partings, brave fellows, brave wives, and very effective it is too. With Nicky Henson and Jack Hedley. **Old Vic**, King Street (0117 987 7877). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm, opens April 20. Then Mon-Wed, 7.30pm; Thurs-Sat, 8pm; mats some Thurs and Sat. No perf Apr 14 or 17. Until May 13

ALDEBURGH: Philip Pickett launches the second **Aldeburgh Early Music Festival** with an evening in which his New London Consort will play all of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos, complemented by a kind of Baroque slide-show: the projection of paintings that illustrate the "allegories" that inspired Bach. The weekend also includes favourites from Telemann, arts workshops and programmes from Concert Spirituel and Quatuor Mosaïques. **Snape Maltings Concert Hall** (01728 453543). Today until Apr 17

BIRMINGHAM. Simon Rattle conducts the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** for tonight's programme of Mozart's Symphony No 33 in B flat. Songs from Strauss, Schubert's Symphony No 3 and Wagner's Good Friday Music from *Parsifal*. **Symphony Hall**, Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm

SCARBOROUGH: First night of previews for a new musical from Alan Ayckbourn and John Pattison: **A Word from Our Sponsor**. A vicar plans to stage a musical version of a local Mystery play and is offered financial aid from a decidedly mysterious quarter. **Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round**, Valley Bridge Parade, (01723 370541). Previews from tonight, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Opens April 20; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat May 27

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**. Echilaratin' song 'n' dance show created from the hits of Fats Waller. Non-stop energy. **Lyric**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

□ **CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER**. Judd Hirsch re-creates his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's play, covering 40 years of Jewish experience in New York. When all's told, it's fairly thin stuff. **Old Vic**, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

□ **DESIGN FOR LIVING**. Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *menage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner. **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

◪ **GEORGE DANDIN**. Red Shift bring in Molière's tart comedy about a lady's deception of her low-born husband. Jonathan Holloway directs, Ranjit Bolt translates.

Cochrane, Southampton Row, WC1 (0171-242 7040). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Apr 27, 2pm. Until Apr 29

◪ **INDIAN INK**. Felicity Kendal, Art Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom Stoppard's latest, wittily, poignantly, exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect. **Aldwych**, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **THE LIBERATION OF SKOPJE**. Vanessa Redgrave and Rade Serbedzija in epic play about the Resistance in 1940s Macedonia. Opening of Moving Theatre's season.

Riverside Studio 1, Crisp Road, W6 (0181-741 2255). Now previewing. 7.30pm; opens April 18

□ **THE LIVE BED SHOW**. Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton play a couple on their journey towards sharing a bed in Arthur Smith's comedy. **Garrick**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6.30pm and 8.45pm.

□ **TWELFTH NIGHT**. Ian Judge's delightful production with Desmond Barrit as Malvolio and Emma Fielding as Viola, both irresistible. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm; mats today and Sat, 2pm

□ **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**. David Thacker's acclaimed production. Bernard Hill superb as the NY longshoreman consumed by unspeakable love for his niece. **Strand**, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800). Tue-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs, 2pm, Sat and Sun, 3pm.

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **AN AWFULLY BIG ADVENTURE** (15): A teenager's postwar theatre experiences. Fascinating abrasive drama from Beryl Bainbridge's novel. Mike Newell directs. Alan Rickman, Hugh Grant and Georgina Cates. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

BLUE SKY (12). Modest film with an Oscar-winning performance by Jessica Lange as an army officer's sexy wife. Director, Tony Richardson. **NFT** (071-928 3232)

◆ **DUMB & DUMBER** (12): Idiotic, good-natured comedy that outstays its welcome, with Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels. Director, Peter Farrelly. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/ Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **FAR FROM HOME** (U): Apple-cheeked family film about a boy and his dog trekking home from a boatwreck. **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

LITTLE BIG LEAGUE (PG): A 12-year-old manages a baseball team. Dull, insanely long comedy, with Luke Edwards and Timothy Busfield. **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (01426 915683)

◆ **ONE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIANS** (U): Disney's pleasant, witty cartoon version of Dodie Smith's book about endangered puppies, first released in 1961. **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

POSTCARDS FROM AMERICA (18): Eye-grabbing fantasia on the life and writings of combative gay artist David Wojnarowicz. Director, Steve McLean. **ICA** (0171-930 3647)

◆ **TERMINAL VELOCITY** (15): Sky-diver Charlie Sheen tangles with Nastassja Kinski in a dim-witted thriller with a few good stunts

Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

CURRENT

◆ **DISCLOSURE** (18): Michael Douglas says no to Demi Moore. Superficially enjoyable version of Michael Crichton's blockbuster. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **JUST CAUSE** (18): Harvard law professor Sean Connery wrestles with a murder case in Florida in a ludicrous investigative thriller. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE (PG): Nigel Hawthorne reigns supreme as Alan Bennett's tormented monarch. A fine film transfer by Nicholas Hytner, with Helen Mirren and Ian Holm. **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGMs: Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

Familiar favourite fails to win

Simpatico
Royal Court

Sam Shepard has made the odd appearance on our cinema screens in recent years — *Country*, *The Right Stuff*, et al — but his own work has been absent from the British stage since *Lie of the Mind* in 1987. His new *Simpatico* leaves me in two minds about whether the wait was worth it. It is funny, mildly quirky and, though too long, quite engrossing. But it lacks the imaginative originality, the demonic derring-do of Shepard's best plays, and its intentions are hard to descry. The background is horse-racing, the form indebted to those murky thrillers in which discreditable skeletons are brought from their cupboards in order to haunt the present. Actually, I am still not entirely sure what Sean McGinley's Carter and Ciaran Hinds's Vinnie did to Tony Haygarth's Simms all those years ago. They appear to have photographed him in sexual disarray by way of blackmailing him into overlooking a horse-swapping scam, thus losing him his job as racing supremo in California. What's certain, though, is that Carter has prospered while the other two have been forced to adopt new identities and names.

James Macdonald's production, never exactly pacy, is not helped by the need to shunt tiny room after tiny room onstage. But the first of the four that Rob Howell has designed for the Court is quintessential Shepard, a sickly, scabby hole containing little but a tin sink and (all grubby linen and greasy hair) Vinnie on a tacky bed. He has summoned Carter to see him, and Carter, dapper in brown, has answered the call. The suit, it emerges, has snitched the bum's wife from him, but the bum retains photos that could ruin the suit.

As a thriller, the play is pretty preposterous. What does Carter do when he twigs that Vinnie has lured him out West in order to keep him out of the way while his old comrade goes to wreak revenge on him in Kentucky? He inexplicably dispatches Vinnie's girlfriend, an improbably naive supermarket checkout girl played by Janet McTeer, with a bagful of dollars to buy off trouble back in the blue grass. When mad things occur in Shepard plays, as they often do, the rule used to be to look for dark subliminal meanings — but what are they here?

Well, the piece displays Shepard's nostalgia for an America where Buicks rode the roads and true thoroughbreds the tracks, and his distaste for a slick new world of mobile phones and "bloodstock agents". Vinnie and Carter are familiar creations too: the one displaced, rootless, angrily in search of personal significance, the other half-aware of his soullessness. But you don't feel Shepard's themes matter to him as they once did. You don't feel, as you did with *True West* and *Fool for Love*, that key obsessions have come furiously free-associating from his unconscious.

What's left, then? Some lively dialogue, some genuinely comic confrontations, and nice performances from the principals. Hinds glowers in half-beaten, half-defiant style; McTeer amusingly burbles and twitters; Haygarth, who has found a kind of peace, exudes good-ole-boy canniness. But is it enough? For me, a Shepard fan, not quite, not really.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



Sean McGinley, Janet McTeer, Tony Haygarth, Ciaran Hinds in Sam Shepard's play

Talking to her selves

Albertine in Five Times
Bridewell, EC4

IN A white room, white chairs hang suspended like ghosts. Dim evening light filters through the frosted glass roof of the Bridewell, tucked away off Fleet Street. It adds to the haunted atmosphere of this prismatic study of a single life: Quebecois Michel Tremblay's complex if not always subtle precursor of *Three Tall Women*.

One downstage corner is in colour, with flowery stretch-covers and a narrow bed. This is the present: rented accommodation for Albertine, aged 60 (bug-eyed Heather Chasen in Zenana Theatre Company's strongly cast production). Drily humorous but not truly happy, Albertine is thinking back, and grudgingly forwards, over her life.

The other chairs, coming to rest, are filled by her former and subsequent selves: Albertine at an initially serene 30, in the country (soft-faced Lisa Jacobs); at a family-frazzled 40, in the city (believable lookalike Marion Bailey, doing her best with a ranting part); at a smiling, glazed 50 (Norma West); and at a misanthropic, comically cantankerous 70 (splendidly crotchety Miriam Karlin).

The Albertines converse, clashing over the truth of their life, or sympathising across age-gaps as rage cyclically resurfaces in the character. When it gets rolling, the interest of Tremblay's structuring is in the gradual revelation, from shifting perspectives, of Albertine's story. This stretches from the loss of her husband and her violent relationship with her unmanageable children, through seeming happiness when she cuts free, to the sordid death of her daughter and renewed guilty bitterness. Madeleine Wynn's direction of the web of interaction is carefully worked.

Nonetheless, Tremblay's explanatory insertions about past events can be too obvious. The tale-telling is essentially linear. His women, in translation, also sound sentimentally poetic or histrionic. The extra character, Albertine's contented sister Madeleine, is too sugary. Meanwhile, the Albertines will exclaim in sudden union that "there are so many stars in the sky", encourage one another to "talk about your rage", and come out with some mildly excruciating lines. This a fine fringe production, but the play has its foibles.

KATE BASSETT

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Master pianist and classic enigma: Maurizio Pollini is this month's *Times* CD Direct choice



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Italian pianist Maurizio Pollini is a man of few words and much genius. **Richard Morrison** on our CD Direct choice



Pollini at the keys: one emerges from his Schubert recitals sadder and wiser, like the wedding guest from the clutches of the Ancient Mariner

You do not lightly enter into Maurizio Pollini's world. In fact, in one sense you do not enter it at all. Considering that great performers are supposed to have a consuming urge to communicate, the psychological wall that Pollini has built around himself is remarkable. He is notoriously hard to interview, as I found to my cost in Milan some years ago. I was courteously ushered into his exquisite apartment, then left to conduct what was virtually a monologue in order to extract the odd precious monosyllable in reply. The words "blood from a stone" inexorably came to mind.

In the concert hall, too, Pollini radiates an austere, insular preoccupation that can chill even as it thrills. There are crematorium technicians who go about their duties more chirpily. Pollini is an enigma with fingers.

And yet he is one of the greatest pianists of our time, perhaps of all time. The cascading brilliance of his Chopin playing elevates the spirit like a drug, yet one emerges from his performance of, say, late Schubert like the wedding guest from the clutches of the Ancient Mariner: sadder, wiser, and stunned by a storyteller who stares into the abyss of death even on a calm sea. *Especially* on a calm sea — for in Pollini's hands innocuous tunes turn shadowy and ominous. He can make the great B flat Sonata, D960, sound like a winter's journey through a haunted landscape. Yet so lucid is his reading, so stunning his control, so intense his concentration, that the listener is awed into empathy.

Even his famously schizophrenic deconstructions of Beethoven compel absolute attention. First the music might be pressurised into astonishingly virtuosic frenzies, then relaxed into a frozen scream akin to the masks of Japanese theatre. This tense introvert — a personality as tightly wound as a coiled spring — can convey more naked truth in one movement than many pianists manage in their careers.

Pollini was marked out for greatness early. The son of a violin-playing Milan architect, he was giving recitals at 11. Nobody who knew him was very surprised when, at 18, he won the Chopin Competition in Warsaw: one of the great piano prizes. He was the youngest of 89 competitors, and completely unprepared for fame.

What followed were nightmare years, marked by illnesses, cancellations, chronic preconcert nerves, feverish interpretations. In 1963 *The Times* reviewed his British debut in scathing terms: "The impression left by his playing was that he was due to catch the 9.05 from Waterloo . . ."

Pollini disappeared from the concert scene for several years. He emerged again in London in 1968 to play a storming concert of Chopin's 24 Etudes. Our chosen recording of these pieces gives the flavour of it. It was extraordinary playing: perfectly poised between dazzling technique and emotional warmth. Pollini seemed to have wrapped all the nerves, the shyness, the inner man, in a protective shield of stupendous pianism.

Unusually among top pianists, Pollini champions 20th-century music, especially Schoenberg, Berg (whose Sonata is given an emotionally charged performance on another of our recordings), Webern and Luigi Nono. "Whether it is classical or contemporary," the pianist says, "the most important thing is to understand the necessity of the notes."

If that makes Pollini sound like some white-coated physicist explaining quantum theory, it is probably the impression he would like to create. Yet his music-making touches the soul in a way that confounds rational analysis. Perhaps that is why he doesn't see much point in interviews.

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RADIO: Past potentates to be analysed

Dry-cleaning the political soapbox

A FEW days ago the Transport Secretary escaped unhurt from a collision with an interviewer on Radio 4. Brian Mawhinney nearly got a nasty cut when his claim that spending was to increase by 20 per cent was steered back to him by the interviewer, who pointed out that a spending *cut* had been announced.

However, the airbag of political instinct opened just in time: Mawhinney "was going on to say" that the increase was compared with the 1980s.

Some days earlier, also on the BBC, there was a long interview with Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary. She did not give more than one direct answer to the questions. Most of her replies began along the lines: "But that isn't the key thing, the key thing is . . ."

Nobody who tunes into **Prime Minister's Questions** on Radio 5 Live will be left in any doubt that this approach comes from the top. John Major, Mawhinney and Bottomley are not exceptions to the rule, they are normal. Nor is their vacillation new. Politicians have always had a message to put across, and this message is transmitted no matter what questions are asked or how many times John Humphrys interrupts.

Politicians hardly ever turn down radio interviews because from their standpoint there are no radio interviews, there is only propaganda. They know that two minutes is a long time on the *Today* programme, and these people can fill two minutes the way hot air can fill a balloon.

A series starting on Radio 4 tonight (8pm) puts all this into perspective. It is called **Makers of Modern Politics** and in it Anthony Howard of *The Times* profiles five politicians who have had a special influence on this century. I doubt if any of them — from Stanley Baldwin to Lord Joseph — was ever bested by a radio interviewer, which is why Howard's series, by revisiting careers in the tranquillity of reflection, is a therapeutic experience for anyone in despair of politics.

And the series offers a light at the end of the tunnel, for it demonstrates that politics on the radio would benefit from more analysis. This would, surely, assist politicians, sparing them the embarrassment and hurt of having their monologues interrupted by Humphrys. Instead, he could interview outside analysts.

Most radio listeners do not wish to know what ministers wish them to know, they wish to know what ministers are up to. So let us have more analysts in the *Today* studio and more ministers getting an extra half-hour in bed, listening to the *Today* programme.

PETER BARNARD

JAZZ: Bebop veteran still in the front line

Flying with Bird

Phil Woods Quintet
Ronnie Scott's

NAILING his colours firmly to the mast from the off, Phil Woods began his first set with a freewheeling original, *All Bird's Children*. Dedicated for nearly 40 years to spreading Charlie Parker's musical message. Woods not only married Parker's widow, Chan, but laid the foundations of his own alto style by memorising the bop legend's recorded solos.

After Parker's death in 1955, Woods incorporated his predecessor's strengths — protean inventiveness, a tone at once tenderly emotional and strident, a profound knowledge of and respect for the blues — into an individual approach honed by 1973, when he formed an acoustic quartet including drummer Bill Goodwin and bassist Steve Gilmore, both still providing the leader with discreet but vigorous propulsion.

Augmented by pianist Bill Charlap and trumpeter Brian Lynch, the quintet is a worthy successor to Woods's superb 1980s band.

After the hectic set-opener, to which Woods, Lynch and Charlap all contributed fluent but carefully controlled solos, the quintet, their sound all the purer for not being amplified — other club-sized venues please note — provided an object lesson in tasteful but fiery small-group jazz.

Both Woods, on his ballad feature *I'm So Scared of Girls When They're Good-looking*, and Lynch, on his brisker feature, Cole Porter's *So in Love*, combined wit and panache with straightforward vivacity.

Even when they laid out, however, the band still swung fiercely, courtesy of Goodwin's restless tempo-breaking interjections, Charlap's quicksilver runs and Gilmore's sophisticated, lightly strummed sound.

Rounded off by a surefooted run through *Willow Weep for Me*, arranged by Woods to incorporate the bass line from Miles Davis's *All Blues*, and culminating in *Phil's Theme*, a clever signature tune containing a multitude of bop references, this was state-of-the-art neo-bop from a class act.

CHRIS PARKER

CONCERT: Young composer comes of age

Hollow triumph

BBC Singers/ Cleobury
St John's, Smith Square

GIVEN his association with the choir of King's College, Cambridge, this concert was more or less what one might have expected from Stephen Cleobury, whose tenure as the BBC Singers' chief conductor begins in November.

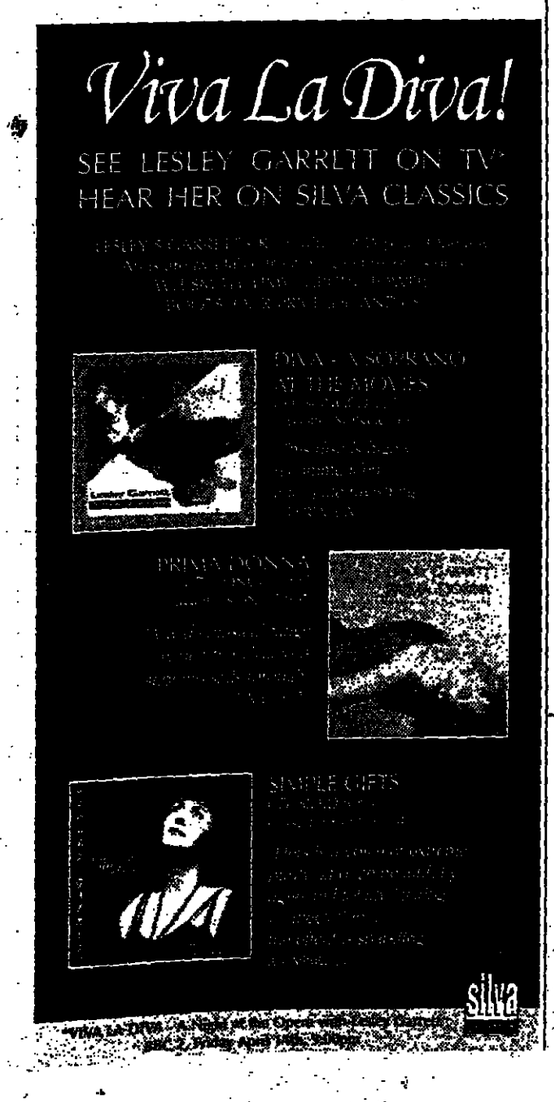
A pair of Bach motets, sung with vitality and clarity and supported by the organ continuo of Christopher Hughes, framed the programme with solid, age-of-reason counterpoint. There was also a new piece by Andrew Simpson, a composer still only in his early twenties. *The Hollow Hills* is a dramatic *scena* based on the closing episodes of the legend of King Arthur, underpinned by the words of the *Lacrimosa* from the Requiem Mass and good texts by the composer.

He showed himself to be already a consummate craftsman, concerned with line and balance and with reflecting the mood of the moment. The music is innately and immediately expressive, with a rich harmonic vocabulary, a sure sense of direction and an unselfconscious inventiveness.

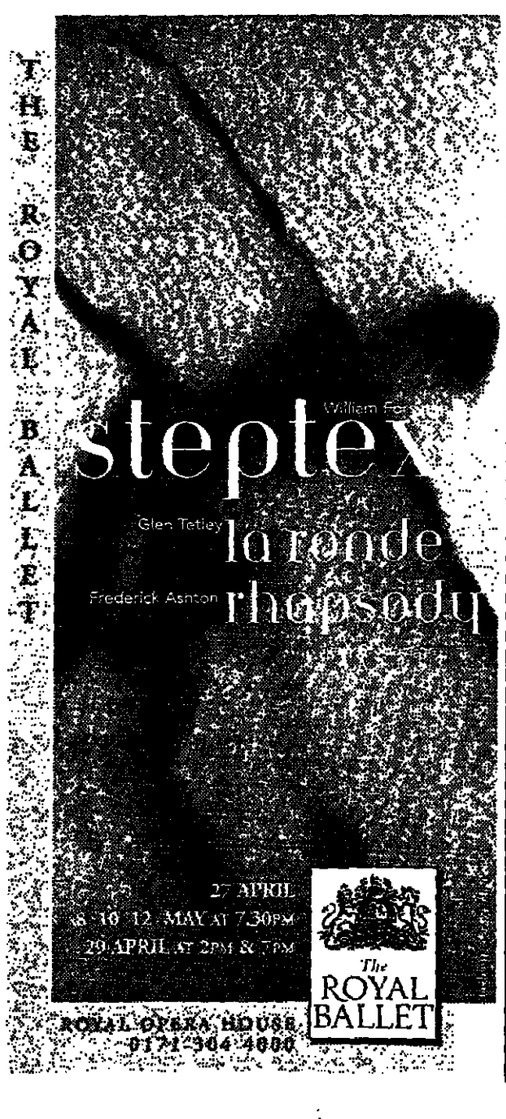
Herbert Howells's little Requiem, composed in the 1930s, formed the basis for the *Hymnus Paradisi*, but remained unperformed far longer, only being resurrected in the 1980s by the BBC Singers themselves.

The harmonies are refined and subtle, sometimes gorgeously scrunchy, but the manner is fundamentally straightforward and economical in these six short pieces. Like the two rich, poignant works taken from Sir Hubert Parry's *Songs of Farewell*, they were delivered with finesse.

STEPHEN PETTITT



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Could an officer and a chairman double up as a spy?

Ronald Payne

THE PERFECT ENGLISH SPY
Sir Dick White and the Secret War, 1935-90
By Tom Bower
Heinemann, £16.99

Although Dick White, the man who enjoyed the unique experience of heading both the security service MI5 and then the secret intelligence service MI6, was certainly English, he was neither perfect, nor really a spy. Not until 1961 and far on in his career did he actually meet a high-ranking Soviet intelligence officer, Colonel Oleg Penkovsky, whose recruitment as a British agent was one of the outstanding successes of the SIS. Indeed that was about the only time he really did encounter a Russian spy.

By no stretch of the imagination could White be called a field man — he was more of a committee chairman. They appointed him, in the opinion of a former colleague not quoted in this book, because he was a decent officer and a friend of the head of the committee whose duty it was to find the right, safe man for the position.

After leaving Oxford where he earnt a reputation as a hard worker (near miss for a First) and a fine runner, White drifted rather than graduated into MI5 in time to make his name as a successful catcher of German spies during the war. He deserves high praise for his part in mounting the elaborate Double-Cross operation which effectively confused Hitler's intelligence service.

It was his misfortune to become head of the SIS during the toughest period of the Cold War, at a time when it was becoming ever more difficult to preserve the traditional secrecy of the service. Until then, the pretext of "national interest" had usually — and successfully — served to conceal the blunders and embarrassments which were suffered by the British service.

The catalogue of disasters of the White era, so diligently — even lovingly — researched by Tom Bower (whose skill at sniffing out other men's errors has been honed on the television battlefields), speaks for itself. No code names are necessary to remember the shameful scandals evoked by the roll call of treachery and dishonour featuring Klaus Fuchs, Burgess, Maclean, Philby, Blake and Blunt.


White (centre) met up annually with old MI5 colleagues

Intelligence services attract traitors as easily as lecherous men attract kiss-and-tell mistresses. The CIA was not immune. The KGB and its Eastern Bloc sister services suffered their great disasters too, and anyway, who finally won the Cold War? The question is how far White — the undoubtedly loyal, capable and honest man at the head of the service — was responsible for British intelligence disasters.

The Perfect English Spy does blame him for being too ready to take at smiling face value people who turned out to be traitors. He found it hard to believe in the infamy of Philby; he enjoyed chatting with Blunt, who charmingly helped him to select pictures to buy. Maybe he was just not tough enough for his job. Yet, amidst all that vast acreage of words written about spy dramas, it can easily be forgotten that the British did have some Cold War successes. Colonel Penkovsky, for instance, brought the first news that the Soviet Union was not all-powerful and that it had missile pads which were built of clay. This gallant Russian, whose ambition was to be decorated by Queen Elizabeth II, paid with his life, though this was brought about more by his own arrogance than through any fault of MI6.

The fundamental decency of White made it impossible for him to insist on the ruthless interrogation of officers and former friends strongly suspected of disloyalty. If that is a fault in an intelligence boss, then it is one I prefer. Look what happened to the ruthless spy masters of the old Soviet Union — for all their cruelty and vengeance, their system did not prevail.

During White's long reign, the resources and power of what had been the British Empire were in rapid decline. The SIS became ever more dependent upon the goodwill of the massively funded CIA. White and his service were compelled to seek its aid and favours.

Far more ruthless even than the so-called buccaneers of SIS still dreaming their imperial dreams, were the politicians. Men like Anthony Eden, using quaint language gleaned from period thrillers, demanded that agents should "bump off" such irritating people as Colonel Nasser. Harold Wilson wanted SIS to overthrow the rebel government of Ian Smith in Rhodesia.

It was White who pointed out to his gung-ho group: "We are gathering intelligence. We are not freelance angels of justice." One of his greatest mistakes was to appoint as his deputy George Young, a peppery and eccentric Scot who was ambitious to head the service himself, and keen on "robust" operations. Fortunately for us all, the mild Dick White was there to thwart his ambition and that of the clique of "robber barons" from Six.


FRANKFURT/M, STÄDELSCHES KUNSTINSTITUT
Vermeer: *The Geographer*, c.1668-69. Restrictions on scientific inquiry were lifting in the mid-1600s

The Golden Age which laid the egg

J.H. Elliott applauds a masterful account of modernity in microcosm

THE DUTCH REPUBLIC
Its Rise, Greatness, and Fall, 1477-1806
By Jonathan Israel
OUP, £25

If any one year can be taken as symbolically marking the beginnings of modern European history, 1572 has strong claims. This was the year in which the Sea-Beggars, a motley group of fishermen, unemployed artisans, freebooting gentry and hard-core Calvinists, descended on the little Dutch port of Brill, and, after putting it to the sack, unexpectedly decided that they might as well remain. On hearing the news, the Duke of Alba, Spain's governor of the Netherlands, is said to have remarked: "*No es nada*" ("it is nothing"). This was one of those monumental misjudgments which make the study of the past so full of ironies. The capture of Brill was the starting-point of a revolt that became a revolution.

The outcome of that revolt, the Dutch Republic, emerged as a state and society which impressed contemporaries as being unlike any other they had seen. "In this country," remarked a French priest who visited it in the early 18th century, "everything is new." The cities were spacious, the houses meticulously clean, the streets well-lit — Amsterdam in 1670 was the first European city to install a system of public street lighting. Here was not only modernity, but evidence that modernity worked. The signs of prosperity were everywhere. In commerce, in politics, in science and the arts, the Republic's two million inhabitants seemed somehow to have stolen a march on their fellow-Europeans and found the secret of success.

They had done so against the odds, for the Dutch Republic was a polity which, by all conventional yardsticks, should scarcely have existed, still less have flourished. Rendered dangerously vulnerable by geography to foreign invasion, it had to face in turn the attempts of the greatest powers of 17th-century Europe, Spain and then France, to destroy its independence. A patchwork of provinces at perpetual loggerheads with each other, a republic with a potential royal family waiting in the wings, a society fractured by deep social and religious divisions in which a variety of faiths and creeds uneasily coexisted — in all this lay the potential not for triumph but disaster.

The story of how d ster was averted and triumph secured is at once improbable and important enough to have attracted generations of historians, Dutch and foreign alike. The result is a mass of historical literature, much of it of high quality, which itself presents a formidable challenge.

Simon Schama, in *The Embarrassment of Riches*, offered a scintillating interpretation of Dutch culture in the Golden Age. Now Jonathan Israel, in the first volume of the new Oxford History of Early Modern Europe (under the general editorship of Professor Robert Evans), comes forward, undaunted, with a history of the Dutch Republic which begins in the late 15th century and ends with its fall to the armies of revolutionary France, and the installation of the monarchy of Louis Bonaparte, at the beginning of the 19th.

In terms of stamina alone Israel's book is an extraordinary achievement, running as it does to 1,130 pages of text. But this is much more than the triumph of a long-distance runner. A book like this could easily be little more than a vast compendium of facts. But while Professor Israel displays total mastery of the literature, and adds to it information derived from his own archival researches, he manages through a densely marshalled text to sustain a narrative of compelling readability. The combination on such a scale of narrative and analytical power is unusual in contemporary historical writing, and evokes the sweeping achievements of the great 19th-century historians.

Israel recalls the giants of the 19th century, too, in the supreme confidence with which he sets about his task. This is not a book afflicted by doubt. Issues over which ink has been spilt in sufficient quantities to flood the Dutch countryside are here crisply decided by a stroke of the author's pen. Such a high degree of certainty is at times unnerving. Did the revolt against Spain in fact do no more than ratify and reinforce a pre-existing and underlying separation of the northern and southern Netherlands? Is the periodization of the upswings and downswings of the Dutch economy quite as clear-cut as is here suggested?

Yet if occasionally the demon doubt arises in the reader, if not the author, the overwhelming impression remains one of admiration. Israel moves easily between the worlds of politics, religion, economics and the arts, drawing upon one to illuminate the other. Hals painted his *Laughing Cavalier*, we are told, in the "harshest year of the first half of the Golden Age". Movements in share prices on the Amsterdam stock exchange are related to major political events. The author gives us an integrated picture of the history and civilisation of the Dutch Republic in all its rich diversity, while not forgetting to cast at least a sidelong, and sympathetic glance at parallel or contrasting developments in the loyal provinces of the southern Netherlands that were to become the Belgium of today.

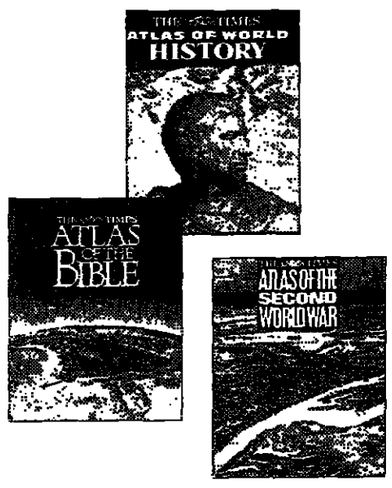
The scale of the book is daunting, and its contents dense and detailed. But readers who are prepared to make the commitment will find it to be at once a splendid summation of knowledge and a powerful work of historical analysis. It takes its place as the most authoritative treatment we have of a society which, in all its precarious complexity, did more than any other to bring modernity to Europe.

J.H. Elliott is Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford.

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Women in the breeches of faith

Geoffrey Rowell

BY SEX DIVIDED
The Church of England and Women Priests
By Jonathan Petre
Fount, £6.99

IN A PERCEPTIVE essay John Stuart Mill contrasted the thought of Jeremy Bentham and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the two seminal minds, as he put it, of the 19th century. Bentham took his stand on the principle, "Is it true?": Coleridge asked, "What is the meaning of it?"

Viewed from a certain perspective the debate in the Church of England over the ordination of women was (and is) a clash between Benthamites and Coleridgeans. No one denies that the ordained ministry of priests and bishops has historically been confined to men. The question for the churches of the West at a time of changing status of women in society has been to assess the significance of this tradition of almost 2,000 years.

A Coleridgean will be cautious about setting aside the universal tradition because of a deeply ingrained sense that it may guard something of importance, and offer a profound archetypal symbolism. The Benethamite will be more ready to call into question a tradition which emerged from a patriarchal society and has simply been accepted rather than argued for.

THE *VIA MEDIA* of Anglicanism, particularly after the powerful Catholic revival of the 19th and early 20th century, was likely to bear the full brunt of tension over the admission of women to the priesthood. The symbolic and sacramental were important. Anglican claims to continue the historic threefold ministry shared with Roman Catholics and Orthodox (despite Leo XIII's verdict in *Apostolicae Curae* that Anglican orders were "absolutely null and utterly void") meant that issues of unilateral change in what was claimed as a common possession would be sharply focussed.

Above all, the weak structures of the Anglican Communion meant that Anglicans were unable to move as a whole. The Church of England's identity as a National Church, forged in opposition to Roman centralism and exported worldwide, has meant a pragmatic adherence to doctrines of provincial autonomy which, if pressed, are as destructive of catholicity as is the incipient congregationalism observable in the Church of England today.

Arguments surrounding the controversy over the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Church of England were and are complex — arguments about authority, ecclesiology, feminism, symbolism and ecumenism. All too often the arguments of opposing sides never engaged.

Jonathan Petre has written this absorbing and readable account of the debate from the vantage point of a religious affairs journalist at a time when the argument was most intense. The story is traced from the war-time ordination of Florence Tim Oi Li in Hong Kong, through the growing pressures in the Episcopal Church of America, and the crucial decision of the 1971 Limuru meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council by 24 to 22 to allow each Anglican province to do what seemed right in its own eyes, to the first illegal and then legal ordinations in America and finally to the campaign that culminated in the Synod Vote of November 1992.


Euphoria after the Synod vote on female ordination

For many, that vote represented a new opening of ministry and the recognition of a vocation long denied. For others it dashed hopes of unity with Rome and the Orthodox and seemed to undermine deeply held convictions of a Catholic Anglican identity; their state of shock was like a state of bereavement.

PETRE succeeds, though not without some inaccuracies, in presenting both the passion and the principle of a complex story. His account includes a number of telling comments by some of the leading players, amongst them Archbishops Runcie and Carey, Dr Graham Leonard, and Dr Diana McClatchey, formerly Moderator of the Movement for the Ordination of Women.

Despite the exodus of some priests and laity to Rome, including for the first time since the Reformation some bishops, the Church of England has declared that there is an "honoured place" within it for those unable to accept the rightness of this development, the arguments by which it was promoted, and the authority by which it was enacted.

To live with these "two integrities" is not easy, but the alternative was to compel consent to an innovation which was both contrary to the temper and beyond the practical power of the Church of England. Questions of authority and identity remain, and are unlikely to go away. Jonathan Petre, though certainly not providing the last word on the history of the debate, has given us a valuable first chronology, though it would have been even more valuable with an index.

All in one Irishman

Matthew d'Ancona

CONOR
Biography of Conor Cruise O'Brien
Volume I: Narrative
By Donald Harman Akenson
McGill-Queen's University Press, £19.95

The sheer scale of this excellent book — it is more than 500 pages long — will put off many prospective readers who might be tempted by its zesty subject. This is a shame, because, in this case, the medium is the message. Conor Cruise O'Brien has had a career of astonishing richness and variety. He has sucked the marrow out of life and come back for more. Only a maximalist approach would do him justice.

Akenson's book, which is published with a companion volume anthologising O'Brien's prose (McGill-Queen's, £25), was written in a remarkably short period and it gallops along pleasingly. More than anything it is a great yarn, telling the tale of a bibulous Renaissance man who has been a force in Irish politics and Western letters for more than 40 years. It is all here: the young diplomat, his failure as UN representative in the Congo, his academic life in Ghana and New York during the 1960s, his reinvention as a Labour politician in 1968 and his central role in the politics of the Troubles thereafter. By the end of the book, you wonder when O'Brien found the time to develop his intellectual interest in Burke, triumphantly realised in his 1992 biography, *The Great Melody*.

The plausible thesis at the heart of this book is that O'Brien is essentially a child of the Enlightenment. The milieu into which he was born in 1917 was one of learned, upper-middle-class nationalism, a stage whose players included Joyce, Yeats and the latter writer's muse, Maud Gonne. After independence, southern Ireland turned in on itself and experienced a "cultural narrowing". Yet O'Brien was the product of a non-Catholic education in which ancient classical culture played a more important part than romantic Irish nationalism. At Trinity, Akenson observes, he was


O'Brien: Renaissance man

strengthened in his belief that "to be truly Irish, one cannot be merely Irish". This does much to explain the attractive pluralism which has always underpinned his ideas.

Hence O'Brien's profound (and sometimes credulous) belief in the United Nations and the necessity of collaborative internationalism. Hence, too, his contempt for those who use violence for political ends. From Burke he learned that civilisation depends upon "Liberty . . . secured by the equality of restraint". This was a first principle which was to shape his life.

In the Congo he tasted anarchy. In Ulster he saw its germ and has fought for more than a quarter century to keep it at bay. Not everyone agrees with O'Brien's views on how a democratic society should deal with paramilitary violence, but none should doubt their sincerity.

In fact, as Akenson shows, O'Brien's approach to the suffering of Ulster is more nuanced than many of his critics — most of them English *bien-pensants* — appreciate. As youthful counsellor to Sean MacBride, he was one of the most aggressive propagandists against partition that Ireland has ever produced. Later, as a New York intellectual, he agitated in America for civil rights in Northern Ireland. Few were more horrified by Bloody Sunday than O'Brien, who compared the shooting of 13 unarmed men by British troops in 1972 to the My Lai massacre four years before. It will not do, therefore, to present him as a Unionist stooge. Indeed, O'Brien's major contribution to the debate on Ulster has been his constructive engagement with Irish nationalism.

Twenty years before the current peace process, he was arguing that the Republic's territorial claim to the North, enshrined in Articles 2 and 3 of the constitution, would have to be dropped. This is now, after many months of tough negotiation, the official position of the Irish Government. In the early 1970s, it was nothing short of heresy. But by showing Irishmen that the claim could be interpreted as colonialist (by Unionists) as well as patriotic (by nationalists), he performed a major service for them.

This exemplifies the importance of O'Brien. He has never been politically ambitious in the conventional sense, veering instead between a faith in hierarchy and fierce iconoclasm. Once, drunk as a lord in 1939, he clambered onto the roof of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin and informed the gathering crowd: "There is no bloody God!" Then, thinking it best to base his claim in authority he roared: "This is the voice of Trinity College!" A natural radical, O'Brien has always enjoyed the roots of tradition and institution. As a result, he has been able to realise the greatest ambition of all: to turn ideas into action.

هذا من الأصل

Along country tracts

Paul Barker is absorbed by two village chronicles which reflect the histories of nations



As a child in Paris, Jacques-Henri Lartigue used photography to capture his family life before the First World War. This picture taken in 1905 shows his cousin Bichonnade flying over the front steps. From *Boy With A Camera* by John Cech (Pavilion, £9.99)

The modernist architect, Mies van der Rohe, said: "God is in the details." The same commitment underlies these two engrossing scrutinies of hidden lives. Each author takes a village, one English, one French, and in a labour of love uses local minutiae to cast a vivid light on national history.

For Patrick Wright, the village is Tyneham, near Lulworth Cove in Dorset, requisitioned as an army gunnery range since the run-up to D-Day. For Gillian Tindall, it is Chassignolles, in what she calls *la France profonde* — deepest France — between Limoges and the Loire.

"Anybody," she writes, "who has travelled across the large, beautiful, essentially reclusive countryside of France has been to it, in one of its thousand variants." And anybody who wants a closer understanding of England and its nearest neighbour should read both books, which confirm their authors' reputations as evocative explorers: topographers with a difference.

Both have close personal ties to the places they write about. Wright chose Dorset not only for the Hardyesque associations which make it so emblematic of English countryside, but also because he spent much of his childhood at boarding school here, with all the love and hate this implies. Tindall has known Chassingnolles, in the old province of Berry, for more than 20 years. She bought a house here, and began tracking down its history after finding a bundle of old letters kept by the Célestine of her title, which went back to the middle of the 19th century.

She is concerned with the close-knit realities of local lives. Wright is more concerned with the interpretations placed on such lives. Tyneham is, in a way, a village invented by journalists and campaigners. This is not to deny its reality as a former farming village with a medieval church. But it has routinely been used as a handy metaphor: of bureaucratic idiocy, of military heavy-handedness, of the struggle between villagers and landowners, of the threat to "the environment".

Wright interviews a former inhabitant who has grown accustomed to telling the same anecdotes, in the same tone of voice, to innumerable visiting television crews. In his own search for symbols, Wright finds them by the bucketful. Some of the oddest characters in recent English history bob up in his pages.

THE VILLAGE THAT DIED FOR ENGLAND
The Strange Story of Tyneham
By Patrick Wright
Jonathan Cape, £17.99

CELESTINE
Voices from a French Village
By Gillian Tindall
Sinclair-Stevenson, £17.99

Politically, he is somewhere on the Left. Hence an occasionally over-heated turn of phrase. He describes Tyneham as "the Lidice of the post-war settlement". Under Cold War pressures, Attlee's government confirmed the earlier requisition. But at Tyneham, no SS men supervised the cold-blooded murder of Czech hostages. Perhaps the tough talk is a talisman against rightist contamination. Some of his most fascinating pages concern middle and upper-class Dorset people, who combined early ecological activism with what can best be called Anglo-Fascism. He is remarkably sympathetic to them.

He goes back to men like Rolf Gardiner — father of the pioneer of early music, John Eliot Gardiner — whom he describes as a sort of "morris-dancing Boy Scout". But alongside his pre-war passion for tree planting and youth camps, Gardiner had an ominous side, which welded eugenics to Germanophilia. He was accused, not unreasonably, as lining himself up for the job of Gauleiter of Dorset. Gardiner had much in common with Walther Darré, Hitler's impeccably ecological Minister of Agriculture.

Here, in an extraordinary, teeming chronicle, are the interlinked lives of a sequence of Empire Loyalists, Mosleyites, and half-crazed writers like Llewellyn Powys (brother of the more famous T.F. and J.C.). Those on the Left, like the novelist, Sylvia Townsend Warner, and her lesbian Communist lover, were little better, with their daft hope of starting the revolution in these green hills. Several Tyneham campaigners ended up killing themselves. Mike Leigh made a celebrated film hereabouts, called *Nuts in May*. Something in the Wessex air brings out the nuttier side of environmentalism.

Gillian Tindall focuses more closely on the way life was (and is) lived in her beloved village. From literature she draws on Georges Sand (who lived nearby) and Balzac. But mostly she conducts an engagingly persistent quest — through conversations, local records and just keeping her eyes open — to re-create the peasant world Célestine Chaumette and her unassuming family lived in.

It is in the fine tradition of Richard Cobb's *Promenades*. Her message is not how much everything changes (though it does). It is how much continues to be the same (despite all the change). She rejects the usual assumption that we are living through a time of unprecedented innovation. The railway, she shows, did more than the motorway to disturb the sleep of centuries.

We think of France as a country often swept through by ar. But Chassignolles knew no invasion between the departure of the English in 1360 and the German takeover of Vichy France in late 1942. My only reservation about Tindall's absorbing book is that I would have liked more about what happened in Chassignolles during the Second World War. But perhaps some things are not easily talked about. By the same token, Wright's pages make me gladder than ever that no invading force ever landed near Tyneham, and gave men of Dorset — for whom "England" was a religion as powerful as "Germany" — the reins of real power.

The rebirth of a fallen hero

Sean French

A DIVING ROCK ON THE HUDSON
Mercy of a Rude Stream
Volume 2
By Henry Roth
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £15.99

Henry Roth published his first novel, *Call It Sleep*, in 1934, when he was 28. He then suffered from a writer's block which caused a publishing hiatus of 60 years, longer than the entire life of Shakespeare, or the lives of Keats and Shelley added together. Last year, when many of his admirers assumed him to be long dead, it was announced that Roth, now in his late eighties, had not only begun to write again but had completed a six-novel sequence entitled *Mercy of a Rude Stream*.

As if this were not remarkable enough, the publication of the first two volumes of the sequence (*A Diving Rock on the Hudson* is the second) reveals that Henry Roth has remade himself in a new and more accessible style, while exploring the same basic subject matter the growth of the son of a Jewish immigrant family in early 20th-century New York City. The sheer strangeness of Roth's rebirth can scarcely be overstated. It is rather as if James Joyce had survived until the early 1970s and then suddenly produced a multi-volume Dublin family saga in the style of Galsworthy. To which one must also add that many people wish Joyce *had* written more in the style of Galsworthy. Many readers may well find the new Roth a more approachable portrayer of the lives of Jewish-Americans than the old.

The young Roth's inability to produce a successor was tragic but understandable. *Call It Sleep* (largely unrecognised until it was re-issued in the 1960s) captured a moment in a boy's life and in American history. The next novel would require new artistic instruments to explore the next stage, more securely rooted in American culture and language. In fact, Roth became a doctrinaire Marxist, which cut him off decisively from the vivid, pungent particularity which was his authentic subject. Perhaps the true successor to *Call It Sleep* was written by the more assimilated Saul Bellow with *The Adventures of Augie March* in 1953.

The *Mercy of a Rude Stream* sequence is about the growth of Ira Stigman, who is recognisably an older version of David Schearl, the little hero of *Call It Sleep*. The new novels contain frequent interpolations by the ageing Ira/Henry Roth, who reflects on the problems of writing this novel and the reasons why it took so long. These are embarrassingly self-indulgent and the work would be better without them, but they have a certain biographical interest, suggesting how Roth unblocked himself. In the first volume of the sequence, *A Star Shines over Mt. Morris Park*, he tells us how he has repudiated the "Joycean allure of sordidness, surface allure".

Call It Sleep is in close-up, with the reader made to experience every impulse, sight, smell and emotion. There is no big picture at all. The new books are much more casually written, with plenty of exposition, fresh air, historical background, unwieldy explanation, informative description. The narrative is skilfully managed, the characterisation vivid (if slack by comparison with that of the young Roth) and the books are impressively readable.

In *Mercy of a Rude Stream* Ira is at junior high school. He is expelled for stealing and while making irregular progress at another school he works a number of vividly described part-time jobs, in a shop, selling drinks at a baseball stadium, and then, very shockingly indeed (especially for a book that is so insistently autobiographical), embarks on a sexual relationship with his 14-year-old sister and later with an equally young cousin. The book ends with Ira discovering his vocation as a writer and (we know from the unusually detailed author's biography) on the point of beginning the liaison with the woman who will encourage him to write *Call it Sleep*, or something very like it.



Roth: a life of thwarted creativity

A third of the way through, this can be seen as a peculiarly tormented version of a *Bildungsroman*, because, as Roth too often reminds us in his interpolated comments, its hero is heading, not for the adulthood and success tradition in the form, but for a life of thwarted creativity. However, there is a happy ending, and we are holding it in our hands. Apart from the considerable merits of the work itself, this renaissance by a man who is now in his 90th year is an intensely moving and inspiring human achievement. The dust-jacket describes Roth as "finally retired". He has earned it.

Mining for the seamier side of change

Lucy Lethbridge

AN INTERFERENCE OF LIGHT
Russell Celyn Jones
Viking, £15

Russell Celyn Jones sets his remarkable and disturbing third novel in a quarry town called Sharon which clings to a wild Welsh coast. Sharon is no fecund Milk Wood, but a stoical slate-mining community whose isolation and proud self-reliance Jones evokes in his starkly descriptive prose.

Underlying this community, literally and metaphorically, is the seam of slate upon which the town is founded. Both the subterranean mystery and the refracted surfaces of the slate are powerfully echoed in the novel's themes of continuity, change, betrayal and disillusion.

The novel's cynical, duplicitous, American narrator Aaron Lewis returns to Sharon in the closing years of the 1950s, twenty years after he worked there as a slate miner. The narrative shifts between the two decades, between the slate miners' strike of the 1930s and the emerging liberation of the 1960s, showing how the engine of historical progress shakes the continuity of generations.

Aaron himself acts as the catalyst for change in a community that has set its face against the outside world. Employed by an American detective agency to pose as a miner and report to the mine's owner, Lord Elusen, on the secrets of the Sharon community, he precipitates the surrender of the striking miners and the beginning of an era when the sons of Sharon will find new employment as Butlins' redcoats.

In Sharon the thinly passionate moral zeal of small town evangelism is set against the awakening sexuality of a new and changed generation. Aaron is erotically transfixed by the towering Old Testament rectitude of Paul Galvanos, leader of the strike, and then, 20 years later, by Paul's son Glanmor, whose easy patter is in marked contrast to his father's pulpit-thumping oratory. With the nonchalant sexual freedom of a new age, Glanmor responds and becomes Aaron's lover.

From the book's opening chapters, we are made aware that *The Interference of Light* is concerned with the challenge of reconciling the equal values of change and permanence. Characters steer their lives precariously through choppy waters: a young Italian seaman jumps ship into a boiling sea and skims ashore on a carved Polynesian surfboard; Aaron watches from behind a rock as Glanmor uses the same surfboard to ride the waves.

Surfboards, slate-mines, stormy seas — at times it seems as though the novel might be in danger of sinking beneath the weight of its own metaphors. However, Russell Celyn Jones is an astonishingly skilful and persuasive writer. He elegantly avoids stylistic overkill, to produce a haunting and absorbing tale.

Twitchers in the hedgerows of history

J.W.M. Thompson

THE OXFORD BOOK OF NATURE WRITING
Edited by Richard Mabey
OUP, £16.99

THE NATURALIST IN BRITAIN
A Social History
By David Elliston Allen
Princeton University Press, £11.95 pbk



Pett Level Beach, East Sussex. Migrant birds flock to this coastline, attracting crowds of birdwatchers. From *The Edge of the Land*, by Fay Godwin (Jonathan Cape, £15)

The natural world is the most obvious, and possibly the most ancient, subject for human art and "nature writing", which furnishes this latest Oxford Book, dates back at least to Aristotle. The genre has undergone various transformations over the years, but as Richard Mabey, the editor of this attractive collection, observes, what characterises all the most convincing nature writing is a recognition of both the kindredness and the *otherness* of the natural world. The fatal errors of sentimentality and anthropomorphism find no welcome here.

We admire the close, precise observation of Gilbert White, as much as the calm lucidity and elegance with which he records his findings. If the Romantics, notably Coleridge, later made the reactions of the observer to that which was observed an essential part of the writer's material, it was usually done without blurring the distinction between the two themes.

Mabey's selection gives an excellent sampling of a literature which has always had a wide appeal in this country. Quite properly, it contains familiar set-pieces, such as White's marvellous account of house-martins, Cowper's essay on his pet hares, and Orwell's classic study of the common toad. Most expected names are here — Clare, Hazlitt, Hudson, Kilvert, Darwin and Wordsworth. But many of the extracts are from unhackneyed sources; they generally fit harmoniously into the whole.

There are different ways in which the natural world has inspired inquiring minds, but Mabey suggests that the most striking aspect of these writings, drawn from a span of more than 2000 years, is how much common ground they occupy. As he says, Orwell's reflections upon springtime convey sentiments identical with those found in a 9th-century Irish celebration of Maytime, also printed here.

Similar themes — nature's profusion and prodigality, the cycle of the seasons — have engaged writers from century to century. But among the contributions by more modern writers a new note, polemical and urgent, is heard. Threats to the natural world (and the human place in it), which never troubled the peace of Selborne, haunt the modern naturalist.

A similar note occurs in the latter parts of *The Naturalist in Britain*, a much-admired book now re-issued after 20 years; by chance it happily complements the Oxford volume. In it, David Elliston Allen turns his penetrating naturalist's scrutiny upon the naturalists themselves, examining their history, their work and their organisations as forming a unique social phenomenon. Where Mabey presents the writings of the great men and women who appear in the story, Allen tells the story itself. With an impressive accumulation of anecdote and detail, he traces the evolution of natural history from the "herbarizings" of apprentice apothecaries (to teach them about medicinal plants in the wild), to the present secure place of the discipline in the scientific establishment.

The earliest natural history society in Britain, and probably in the world, was, it appears, the "Temple Coffee Bar House Botanic Club", founded in or about 1698. It was the forerunner of innumerable groups which introduced the important element of field study by amateurs into this branch of science. Later, their interests developed to include geology, entomology and ornithology. They established the tradition which today sends armies of bird-watchers and "twitchers", formidably equipped with complex technology, into the countryside every weekend.

Naturalists and their studies have been much influenced by the patterns of the society around them. Allen has explored rich veins of material to illustrate this theme. Early field workers, few in number, were unaccustomed sights in the countryside and suffered from being mistaken for prowling Jacobite spies or tax-collectors in disguise. Even the great Sir Joseph Banks was arrested while poking about in hedgerows at Hounslow in 1760, and hauled before the Bow Street magistrate as a suspected highwayman.

The situation today is reversed. The problem now is numbers. News of a nesting osprey can attract 14,000 people to a remote Scottish loch, and bird-watchers seriously outnumber the birds themselves. The pioneers of the Temple Coffee House Club would have been astounded to witness such an outcome.

Some fishy business at the fête

Christina Koning

TROUTSTREAM
By Gerald Lynch
Fourth Estate, £14.99

A CONTEMPORARY work of fiction which begins, as Gerald Lynch's debut novel does, with a list of characters and a map of the story's location is either very conventional or very strange. This book, which starts with a tea-party and ends with a fête — but which also incorporates other, less comforting images of suburban life — is a mixture of both.

Lynch's chosen microcosm is the award-winning development of Troustream; Ottawa, whose streetnames — all of which have a piscine flavour — reflect its architect's fondness for Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler*. Quite what the significance of this is (unless to establish the "fishiness" of most of the characters) Lynch never explains; perhaps he simply means to poke fun at the idea that social unity can be artificially imposed.

There is certainly little evidence of any kind of unity in Troustream, where marriages are falling apart, business partners regard one another with suspicion and class divisions abound. The well-heeled denizens of Angler's Court look askance at the inhabitants of the low-rent Sea Breeze "project"; while the landlord of the Troutstream Arms edits a newspaper expounding his neo-fascist views about the "welfare" families who form part of his clientèle.

While the author makes satirical capital out of exposing routine hypocrisies, this is not his main concern. Like his namesake, the film-maker David Lynch, he seems more interested in revealing the inherent weirdness of small-town life. When a child is found murdered at a tea-party, suspicion points to first one, then another, of Troutstream's residents.

Is the murderer the part-time handyman and full-time marijuana grower Les Mellanson, whose dog is subsequently found mutilated in a rubbish-bin? Or is Sam Blank — the local Peeping Tom — a more likely culprit? The problem for the reader is that all Lynch's characters are so bizarre that any one of them could have been capable of such an aberration. In the end, it hardly seems to matter.

While the novel succeeds in emphasising the strangeness of life, it does so at the expense of realism. This has an undermining effect on the whole construction. Novels which start with maps and lists of characters are one thing; novels which end with extra-sensory perceptions and evil spirits disguised as Elvis Presley are another. This book never quite decides which side of the fence it is on.

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Chancery Division — Law Report April 13 1995 — Court of Appeal

Reasonable notice required for public body

In re Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute

Before Mr Justice Carnwath

[Judgment March 21]

Where a body conducting a public function occupied land as licensee, the landowner could not terminate the licence without reasonable notice. A valid notice was one which gave sufficient time to enable practical arrangements to be made to safeguard the public service and to enable the provisions of the statute under which the licensee was operating to be followed.

Mr Justice Carnwath so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division in an action brought by the governing body of the Henrietta Barnett School and Barnet London Borough Council against the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, a company limited by guarantee, and the Attorney-General. The Secretary of State for Education was granted leave to join the proceedings as an intervener pursuant to Order 15, rule 16(2)(b) of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Mr Nigel Davis, QC and Mrs Francesca Quint for the school governors and Barnet: Mr Edward Nugee, QC and Mr Colin Challenger for the institute: Mr Michael Furness for the Attorney-General: Mr William Charles and Mr Richard Morgan for the Secretary of State for Education.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that the institute was the owner of the site at Central Square in Hampstead Garden Suburb and was the umbrella charitable organisation for various educational activities that took place on it, whether in the nature of preparatory, secondary or adult education.

The Henrietta Barnett School, a girls' secondary school, although it had become a major part of the institute's activities, was always seen as part of that wider unity.

The school, which started life in 1912, became a voluntary aided school under the Education Act 1944.

On December 28, 1956 the institute executed a deed styled as a "declaration of trust" whereby the arrangement between itself as owner of the site and the education authorities could be formalised. Clause 13 of the declaration provided "it shall be lawful for the institute to revoke, vary, add to, amend or alter all or any of the trusts, powers or provisions of this deed".

The Department of Education and Barnet Council, as local education authority, made *enormous contributions over the years* to the running of the school and repair of the buildings pursuant to their responsibilities under the 1944 Act. Furthermore, in the 1980s they paid over £3 million towards the cost of repair and renovation of the buildings.

By 1990 the institute was becoming concerned about its deteriorating financial position and its *ability to fund its educational* projects other than the school. On March 18, 1993 it served a notice revoking the 1956 declaration of trust and purportedly terminating the school's right to use and occupy the premises on or before December 31, 1993.

The notice was accompanied by a "without prejudice" letter which made it clear that the school could continue to use the premises for a limited period on condition that it paid a market rent. It was common ground that such funds would have to come, if at all, from public moneys.

The school and the education *authorities brought proceedings for* an order that the notice was invalid. The court rejected their argument that any such notice would be invalid. The crucial issue was what period of notice was lawful.

If the school's right of occupation could be terminated without notice, the scheme contained in the Education Act 1944 and its successors, which included detailed machinery for regulating the discontinuance or transfer of schools, could be overridden entirely without warning.

The 1956 declaration of trust was specifically made against the background of the decision that the school was to become a voluntary aided school and one of its purposes was to enable the school to function satisfactorily as such. The revocation clause in clause 13 could not have been intended to give the institute power to frustrate that purpose.

Furthermore, such an interpretation would be difficult to reconcile with clause 9 which provided that where buildings became unsuitable or unnecessary for the stated purposes the institute might sell them, but "subject to the consent of the Minister of Education and such other consents if any as may be required by law being first obtained".

That seemed to be a clear recognition that even redundant *buildings could not be disposed of* without the consent of the minister. A similar qualification was necessarily implicit in clause 13.

Assistance might also be derived *from the well known line of* authorities dealing with notice to terminate licences. In particular *Canadian Pacific Railway Co v R* ([1931] AC 414) dealt with the problems which arose where a licence was a matter of public, rather than purely private, concern.

Applying that case, a reasonable notice should involve sufficient time for the making of substituted arrangements within the statutory scheme. In the present case there was no doubt that the notice actually given was inadequate *judged by any standard of* reasonableness.

His Lordship also thought that it was *unacceptable in principle and* practice for a body conducting a public function, with the concurrence of the landowner, to be given a notice specifying a period which everone knew to be impossibly short, and which in practice was not intended to be implemented.

This was a case like Canandian Pacific, where a valid notice was one which gave sufficient time to *enable practical arrangements to* be put in hand to safeguard the public service. Accordingly, the notice was ineffective and had not validly revoked the licence of the school to occupy the site.

His Lordship went on to observe *that the primary guide as to what* would have been reasonable notice was the statute under which the licensee was operating.

Section 14 of the 1944 Act required the governors *to give not* less than two years' notice to the secretary of state in order to discontinue a school: and a reasonable period should not be less than *the minimum time* which the statute allowed governors to discharge their responsibilities.

Once a valid, at least two-year notice period had expired, the governors would technically be trespassers and potentially liable for mesne profits for continued occupation.

In practice, the amount of the payment would be a matter for negotiation based on a market rate but having regard to the respective capital contributions to the development of the site.

In the result, his Lordship made declarations that the notice of March 18, 1993 terminating the occupation of the school was of no *legal effect and that the school was* not obliged to vacate the site under that notice.

Solicitors: Brecher & Co and Mr G. R. L. Creer, Barnet; Winckworth & Pemberton: Treasury Solicitor: Treasury Solicitor.

Court cannot order report

In re K (a Minor) (Contact: Psychiatric report)

In an application under the Children Act 1989 for contact by the absent parent with the child of the parties, the court was not entitled to order a local authority, pursuant to section 7, to instruct a child psychiatrist to prepare a report for *the court's consideration.*

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Russell, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Ward) so held on April 7 allowing the appeal of Greenwich London Borough Council against the order of Judge Coningsby, QC, in Bromley County Court on December 13, 1994, that the authority, inter alia, obtain a report from a child psychiatrist concerning the child of the parties, now aged eight, about whom the court had evidence of emotional disturbance exhibited by a failure to perform properly at school so that therapeutic treatment was being given by an educational psychologist.

LORD JUSTICE WARD said that the judge had taken the view that "other person" in section 7(1)(b)(iii) could include a child psychiatrist. But the discretion under that part of the section was given to the local authority to make the appointment, over which the court had no control.

Notwithstanding the duties on authorities to attend to requests by courts, the court was not entitled to impose on them the burden of instructing a child psychiatrist.

The judge could have either invited the parties, given a willingness expressed by both parents, jointly to instruct an expert of their choice, or Order 40 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, on the appointment of an expert to report on certain questions, could have been invoked.

VAT liability depends on the facts

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Reed Personnel Services Ltd

Where contractual arrangements between three or more parties were inconclusive as to the nature of the *supply for value-added tax pur*poses then that supply was to be ascertained from the facts of the case as a whole.

Mr Justice Laws so held in the Queen's Bench Division on March 3 when dismissing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from the decision of a VAT tribunal on August 31, 1993 that Reed Personnel Services Ltd were not making exempt supplies *for the purposes of section 17 of and* Group 7 of Schedule 6 to the Value Added Tax Act 1983.

Reed, a recruitment agency providing nurses to hospitals, contended that while it introduced nurses and provided associated obligations it was not making supplies of *nursing services.*

HIS LORDSHIP said that it might be that the contracts between the parties, while exhaustive of their private law functions, *unsurprisingly, nevertheless nei*ther catered for nor concluded the statutory question what supplies were made to whom. The nature of the VAT supply might be a consequence, but it was not a function of the contracts.

Where the contracts were not *conclusive, the resolution of such* issues remained a matter of fact for the tribunal. Accordingly, there being no *Wednesbury* unreasonableness ([1948] 1 KB 223) on the part of the tribunal in the present case, the appeal would be dismissed.

Rebutting presumption of advancement

McGrath v Wallis

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Hirst and Sir Ralph Gibson

[Judgment March 10]

Where a house had been acquired for joint occupation but was conveyed into the name of only one of the occupants, the equitable presumption of advancement was to be considered as a judicial instrument of last resort. Not only *in cases between husband and wife* but also in those between father and child the presumption was rebuttable by comparatively slight evidence.

*Thus where a house was ac*quired for a father and his son but was put in the son's name to enable a mortgage to be obtained and where evidence existed of proposals that the beneficial interest should be shared, there could be no doubt that the presumption was *rebutted.*

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mrs Margaret McGrath, from the refusal by Judge Simmons sitting in Luton County Court on December 9, 1993, to declare that the defendant, the plaintiff's brother, Mr Brian Wallis, held the property at 10 Talbot Road, Luton, on trust for himself and the estate of his deceased father in unequal shares.

Mr Geoffrey Jaques for the plaintiff; Mr Mark Dencer for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that since the decision of the House of Lords in *Pettitt v Pettitt* ([1970] AC 777) the application of the equitable presumption of advancement to houses acquired for joint occupation had been reclassified as a judicial instrument of last resort: see per Lord Reid (at p793), Lord Hodson (at p811) and Lord Diplock (at p824) and also Lord Diplock in *Gissing v Gissing* ([1971] AC 886, 907) and Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Megaw in *Falconer v Falconer* ([1970] 1 WLR 1333, 1336-1337).

There appeared to be no subsequent case in which the presumption had proved to be decisive, even where one of the parties had since died. But here, in a contest between a son and the estate of his deceased father, the decision of the judge was squarely based on a presumed intention of the father to make a gift of the house to the son.

In 1959 the father of the plaintiff and the defendant had acquired in his sole name a house in Luton which had remained the family home for many years. The plaintiff had lived there until she married in 1974 and the defendant was still living there when their mother died in 1985.

In 1986 the father had decided to sell the house, it being too large for the needs of himself and the defendant, and move elsewhere.

To acquire the Talbot Road property an additional amount had had to be raised on mortgage. The father was not employed at the time but a mortgage offer was made by a building society to the defendant and in due course the property was conveyed into his sole name.

However, the father had appointed solicitors (not appearing in the instant case) to act for him. The evidence showed that a deed which was to have been a declaration of trust was drawn up by them.

Thereby Talbot Road was to be held by the defendant on trust for his father and himself in unequal shares of 80 per cent and 20 per cent respectively. That deed had never been sent to the father by the solicitors but much later was found unsigned in their files.

The father died intestate in 1990 and the plaintiff made a claim to be entitled to a share of the Talbot Road property. The defendant denied that she had any such entitlement.

The judge, having referred to the presumption of advancement and to *Snell's Principles of Equity* (29th edition (1990) pp178, 180-181) stated that it was significant that the declaration of trust had not been completed but remained on the solicitors' file and said that "in all probability that reflects the reality of the situation which here was the son, living in the house together with his father, the son being responsible for the mortgage".

The plaintiff, the judge concluded, had failed to discharge the burden of proof which was on her to rebut the presumption of advancement.

But the court had to look at all the circumstances of the case in order to see whether they did or did not support an inference that the actual intention of the father was that he should retain an interest in Talbot Road.

Three features of the case were decisive: first, it was only the defendant who would have been acceptable as a mortgagor of the property; second, the father had never told the defendant that he had instructed the solicitors not to proceed with the declaration of trust, and third, no reason had been suggested for the father wishing to divest himself of all interest in the house.

In *Pettitt v Pettitt* Lord Upjohn (at pp813-814), while maintaining that the presumptions of advancement and of a resulting trust, when properly understood and properly applied to circumstances of today, remained as useful as ever in solving questions of title, nevertheless accepted that they were readily rebutted by comparatively slight evidence.

Although *Pettitt* was a case between husband and wife, the observations of all of their Lordships could be taken to apply equally to a case between father and child. Assuming that the approach of Lord Upjohn was correct, the evidence here was to be regarded as being markedly more than slight.

There could be no doubt that the presumption of advancement was rebutted.

Lord Justice Hirst and Sir Ralph Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: Toller Staunton, Leicester; Knowles Benning, Luton.

Optician makes two supplies for VAT purposes

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Leightons Ltd Same v Eye-Tech Opticians

For the purposes of assessment of liability to pay value-added tax, a dispensing optician made two *separate supplies*, one of eye-testing services and the other of corrective spectacles.

Mr Justice McCullough so held in the Queen's Bench Division on March 13 when dismissing appeals of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise under section 11 of the Tribunals and Enquiries Act 1992 against two decisions of a VAT tribunal, dated September 31, 1993, and September 8, 1994.

HIS LORDSHIP said both appeals raised the same point, namely, whether in the ordinary course of their business of supplying corrective spectacles, dispensing opticians made a single supply of goods or two separate supplies: one of goods, the other of services.

The commissioners argued that the said services were incidental to the supply of spectacles and that therefore there was a single supply of goods which attracted VAT at the standard rate.

The taxpayers appealed under section 40(1) of the Value Added Tax Act 1983. The VAT tribunals decided that there were two supplies: one of goods, the other of eye-testing services.

The supply of goods attracted VAT at the standard rate but the supply of services was exempt from VAT.

Scots Law Report April 13 1995 Court of Session

No nervous shock claim for employee

Robertson v Forth Bridge Joint Board

Before the Lord President (Lord Hope), Lord Allanbridge and Lord Cowie

[Judgment March 2]

An employer did not owe a duty of care to an employee of his who suffered nervous shock as a result of witnessing the death of a fellow employee with whom he had been working on a joint task.

The First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session so held, refusing reclaiming motions by Mr Arnott Robertson and Mr Derek Rough against interlocutors of the Temporary Lord Ordinary granting decrees of absolvitor in favour of the Forth Bridge Joint Board in actions of damages brought against the board by the reclaimers, and adhering to the interlocutors of the Temporary Lord Ordinary.

Mr Ronald Mackay, QC, and Mr Stephen Woolman for the pursuers and reclaimers; Mr Michael Jones, QC, and Mr Ralph Smith for the defenders and respondents.

THE LORD PRESIDENT said that the actions arose out of a tragic accident on the Forth Road Bridge. The pursuers and a workmate named George Smith had been working together in the course of their employment with the defenders. The winds had been blowing at gale force on the day in question.

The accident had occurred while the men had been in the course of removing a large thin piece of metal sheeting which had been found lying on the carriageway. It was being taken off the bridge on the open platform of a pick-up truck.

Mr Smith had been sitting on the top of the metal sheet on the back of the truck. Mr Robertson had been driving it and Mr Tough had been following a few feet behind in a patrol van.

In the course of their journey a sudden and violent gust of wind had caused the sheet and Mr Smith to be thrown violently off the back of the van and over the side of the bridge.

That had occurred where the carriageway was high above the water, and no one who fell could be expected to survive. As it happened Mr Smith had fallen only a few feet onto a girder below the carriageway but he had been killed by the *force of the impact.*

The pursuers claimed to have suffered nervous shock as a result of witnessing the accident.

The Lord Ordinary had not been persuaded that the relationship between the pursuers and Mr Smith was sufficiently proximate *to satisfy the essential test in such* cases, namely whether it had been foreseeable that the negligence of the defenders in causing physical injury to one party would also cause psychiatric injury to the pursuers in consequence of the accident.

In *Alcock v Chief Constable of South Yorkshire* ([1992] 1 AC 310, 397C-F and 403F-H) Lord Keith of Kinkell and Lord Ackner had referred to the category of persons *to whom the duty was owed as that* which involved such ties of love and affection, established on the evidence, that foreseeably would cause psychiatric injury consequent on nervous shock negligently suffered following the injury to the third party: see *McLoughlin v O'Brian* ([1993] 1 AC 410).

The Lord Ordinary had undertood the requirement to be that the relationship between and the deceased or injured party had to be of the sort that was found within the closest ties of friendship or family. The pursuers were not in that category.

It seemed to his Lordship that the principle which had been expressed by Lord Porter in *Bourhill v Young* (1942 SC (HL) 78, 98) applied equally to the relationship between employer and employee as it did to the relationship between a wrongdoer and anyone else who was merely a bystander or witness at the scene of the accident.

The existence of the relationship between employer and employee might be said to remove the risk of having to compensate the world at large, because it did to some extent restrict the numbers of persons who were likely to be involved.

Nevertheless, the numbers might still be considerable; for example, employees of the defenders who were present on other parts of the bridge farther from the place where the accident happened.

It was difficult to see why the bystander in the case of a road accident should be denied his claim, when a bystander who happened to be an employee but had had nothing to whatever to do with causing the incident was allowed to recover damages for that type of injury.

There appeared to be no logical stopping point once the bystander type of case was admitted in the case of employees.

On the other hand cases of active participation in the event formed a distinct category, for reasons mentioned by Lord Oliver of Aylmerton in *Alcock* (at p408E-F).

His Lordship concluded that where employees were merely bystanders or witnesses, as the pursuers had been in this case, the ordinary rule had to apply. They had to be assumed to be possessed of sufficient fortitude to enable them to endure the shock caused by witnessing accidents to their fellow employees. Unless they could bring themselves within one of the other recognised categories their claim had to be refused.

Law agents: Allan McDougall & Co, SSC; Simpson & Marwick, WS.

Power to detain ship in defined waters

Ullapool Harbour Trustees v Secretary of State for Transport

Before Lord Milligan

[Judgment January 31]

The power of the Secretary of State for Transport under section 30A of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, inserted by the Merchant Shipping (Registration, etc) Act 1993, to detain "a ship in port" and "prohibit the ship from going to sea", because it was not fit to do so, entitled him to require the ship to *remain not merely within the* harbour limits, but within waters defined as "category C waters" in terms of the Merchant Shipping (Categorisation of Waters) Regulations (SI 1992 No 2356).

However, the 1988 Act lacked a clear definition of the waters within which a ship might competently be detained.

Lord Milligan so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session when dismissing a petition for judicial review brought by the Ullapool Harbour Trustees *against orders made by the Se*cretary of State for Transport under Section 30A of the 1988 Act.

Mr William Holligan for the petitioners; Mr Robert McCreadie for the respondent.

LORD MILLIGAN said that the orders detained three Bulgarian vessels within the port of Ullapool and prohibited them from going to sea, which was defined in the orders as a line joining Ullapool Point and Aultnaharrie. The Ullapool harbours limits were several miles to the north-west of that line.

The petitioner's harbourmaster considered that the vessels could be more safely anchored in Annat Bay, which was within the harbour limits, but was several miles beyond the respondent's line.

In terms of the Harbours, Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847 and the Pier and Harbour Order Confirmation (No 4) Act 1911, the harbourmaster had wide powers to regulate the movement of ves*sels within the harbour limits.* The secretary of state's marine safety officer contended that Annat Bay was less safe than the vessels' existing positions.

The 1992 Regulations confirmed that downstream from the respondent's line was "sea" so far as the regulations were concerned.

If a marine safety officer considered that a ship was unsafe to go to sea, it must have been intended that he should have power to prohibit it from going to "sea" waters what ever the master's intentions of doing so.

It was necessary to determine just what was intended to be the "sea" for present purposes. Neither the 1988 Act nor dictionary definitions materially assisted. All that a court could do was offer a stop-gap solution pending further legislation.

His Lordship stressed that it was not practicable for present purposes to assess the practical con*sequences for ports other than* Ullapool of the application of the parties' submissions.

The petitioners' argument had the attraction that it best preserved the right of a harbour master to cause a vessel to move position within his harbour limits.

The local harbourmaster should be best placed, at first sight at least, *to judge when a vessel required to* be moved to another position within the limits of his harbour on safety grounds.

However, it was said on behalf of the secretary of state's officer that, notwithstanding any special local knowledge which the harbourmaster might have, the officer having been given powers to board vessels to assess safety considerations while the harbourmaster had no similar powers, clearly it was recognised *in the legislation that the officer* was best able to determine the fitness of a particular vessel to go to sea.

Accordingly, the petitioners' solution had the disadvantage that the officer could not prevent the harbourmaster from directing the vessels to move to Annat Bay notwithstanding that in the officer's opinion such a move would be dangerous in terms of section 30 of the 1988 Act and notwithstanding that the legislation conferred on such an officer powers of safety inspection which the harbourmaster did not possess.

A further practical disadvantage of the petitioners' solution was that the matter would be governed by reference to the harbour limits which it was agreed had not been determined by safety factors, unlike the respondent's line, which had been determined by a factor very relevant to safety, namely the smoothness of waters, and was used in other safety legislation.

His Lordship concluded that the secetary of state's solution was the more satisfactory of the two pending further legislation to clarify the matter.

Law agents: Brodies, WS: Solicitor for the Secretary of State for Scotland.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Roman Catholic purposes in connection with The English Region of the Sisters of Charity of St Jeanne Antide.
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at 13 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2HJ or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference number FOA-246712A/1-CDLdn1).

Fletcher, Madeleine Joan, 80 Campden Hill Gate, Duchess of Bedford Walk, London W8, died 18 September 1994: particulars to Biddle & Co of 1 Gresham Street London EC2V 7BU before 13th June 1995

MANCHESTER UNITY LIFE INSURANCE COLLECTING SOCIETY
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THIS SOCIETY WILL BE HELD IN THE GOLD ROOM, WINTER GARDENS, EASTBOURNE, on Monday, 8 May 1996 at 1.00 p.m.
AGENDA
Notice convening the Meeting.
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 1994.
Report of the Committee of Management.
Balance Sheet and Auditor's Report 1994.
To consider and if thought fit, approve an amendment to Rule 36 - Friendly Societies Protection Scheme.
Any Other Business of which notice has been given.
A copy of the proposed Amendment to Rule may be obtained by any Member upon Application to the Society's Registered Office.

The Automobile Association
Annual General Meeting 1996
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of The Automobile Association will be held at The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, London, on Thursday 25 May 1995 at 11am to receive the Report of the Committee and the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 1994, to elect Members of the Committee, to elect the Auditor and to deal with any other business which the Meeting is competent to transact.
Dated 5 April 1995
Norfolk House
Priestley Road
Basingstoke
Hampshire RG24 9NY
By order of the
Committee of
The Automobile Association
C J SKEEN
Secretary
Copies of the Report and Accounts together with any members' resolutions for consideration at the meeting, are available to members on application to the Secretary.
Members are reminded to bring their AA membership card with them.

DR FREDERICK HILTON Ph.D., DECEASED

LATE OF ADDLESTONE, SURREY

Would any descendant or relation of William Collis Hilton (born 1874) or of Florence Emma Hilton (his sister (born 1877) who are believed to have lived in the Selsey, Kent area, or of Harold Hilton, their brother, (born 1880) who is believed to have lived in the Oxford Street, London area up to the 1940s, or any person with knowledge of such persons please as soon as possible contact Paine & Bretnall, Solicitors, 80 Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9AB, telephone 01932-563122 (reference: WTP)

LEGAL NOTICES

MANCHESTER UNITY LIFE INSURANCE COLLECTING SOCIETY
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THIS SOCIETY WILL BE HELD IN THE GOLD ROOM, WINTER GARDENS, EASTBOURNE, on Monday, 8 May 1996 at 1.00 p.m.
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To consider and if thought fit, approve an amendment to Rule 36 - Friendly Societies Protection Scheme.
Any Other Business of which notice has been given.
A copy of the proposed Amendment to Rule may be obtained by any Member upon Application to the Society's Registered Office.

LICENSED MERCHANDISING LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

BPC FINANCE (GUARANTEES) LTD
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

BRYANT & MAY LIMITED
(Registered in England No. 873671)
NOTICE OF RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT OUT OF CAPITAL
NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Section 170 of the Companies Act 1985 that:-
1. the above-named company ("the Company") has approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring its own shares by purchase;
2. the amount of permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £6,890,000;
3. the date for the resolution of payment out of capital is 7th April, 1995;
4. a Statutory Declaration and Auditors' Report required by Section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's Registered Office; and
5. any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the resolution for payment out of capital apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an order prohibiting the payment.
Dated 11th April 1995
SALLY M. JACKMAN
COMPANY SECRETARY

BUILDING LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

RICHMAMMOTH LIMITED
(IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN. In pursuance of Section 4A of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT on Friday the 21st of April 1995 at 10.30am for the purpose of having an account laid before them, showing the events leading up to the appointment of the Joint Administrative Receivers, the manner in which the administrative receivership has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Joint Administrative Receivers. A copy of the report is available, free of charge, on written request to the Joint Administrative Receivers at: Arthur Andersen P O Box 58 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. A person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if 1. he has given to the Joint Administrative Receivers, not later than then 12.00 hours on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the Company, and the claim has been duly admitted. 2. there has been lodged with the Joint Administrative Receiver, any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf. DATED this 31st day of March 1995
MARTIN FISHMAN Joint Administrative Receiver

No. 001866 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF RUSSELL HOBBS TOWER LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 22nd March 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £46,000,000 to £11,250,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is listed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 26th day of April 1995.
Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 11th day of April 1995
Garrett & Co
St Paul's House
Park Square
LEEDS LS1 2PJ
Ref: RMJ.CAC Tel: 0113 2441984
Solicitors for the above-named Company

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF:
PUMA ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS LIMITED 1958181
ARTHUR F TORELL LIMITED 848116
CAULDONCARE LIMITED 313998
WINPROBE LIMITED 1997871
HARDING GROUP SERVICES LIMITED 1677409
HARDING ENGINEERING DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED 476218
AB PANELS LIMITED 2349288
HARDING ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS PLC 1453284
PENNINE ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED 1762567
(ALL IN LIQUIDATION)
On 16 December 1993 the companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Ian Clifford Powell and Anthony John Patrick Brereton of Price Waterhouse were appointed liquidators by the shareholders.
The liquidators give notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidators, at York House, York Street, Manchester, M2 4WS by 5 May 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidators also give notice that they will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.
Dated 7 April 1995
I C Powell
Joint Liquidator

THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ACT 1982
HALLMARK INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED ("HALLMARK")
TRANSFER OF GENERAL BUSINESS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Hallmark is applied to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on 31st March 1995 for his approval pursuant to Part II of Schedule 2C to the Insurance Companies Act 1982, to transfer to Pearl Assurance PLC all its rights and liabilities under policies written by it in the United Kingdom within its discontinued motor, London Market and other businesses where it was not the lead insurer, in the period 17th September 1985 to 31st December 1994 inclusive.
A copy of the Statement setting out the details of the proposed transfer is available for inspection at Hallmark's offices at Portsoken House, 155-157 Minories, London EC3N 1EE during normal business hours on any day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) until 18th May 1995.
Written representations concerning the transfer may be sent to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry at the Department of Trade and Industry, Insurance Division, 10-18 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0NN before 14th June 1995. The Secretary of State will not determine the application until he has considered any representations made to him before that date.
Hallmark Insurance Company Limited.

EC ESTATES LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

WATERLOW & SONS (PARK ROYAL) LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30 am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

PAULTON INVESTMENTS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

REGIONAL DIGEST MAGAZINE LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
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10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

The Automobile Association
Annual General Meeting 1995
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of The Automobile Association will be held at The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, London, on Thursday 25 May 1995 at 11am to receive the Report of the Committee and the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 1994, to elect Members of the Committee, to elect the Auditor and to deal with any other business which the Meeting is competent to transact.
Dated 5 April 1995
Norfolk House
Priestley Road
Basingstoke
Hampshire RG24 9NY
By order of the
Committee of
The Automobile Association
C J SKEEN
Secretary
Copies of the Report and Accounts together with any members' resolutions for consideration at the meeting, are available to members on application to the Secretary.
Members are reminded to bring their AA membership card with them.

ROBERT STANTON LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

SWAN ENGRAVING LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

THAMES PUBLISHING LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

THE HISTORY BOOK CLUB LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

MACDONALD PHOEBUS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
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10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

FORMSKRAFT LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

DORSTEL PRESS BINDINGS LEATHER LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
RICHMOND CATFORD & COMPANY LIMITED (In Liquidation) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 17th March 1995.
M.R. DORRINGTON, Liquidator.

THE SECURITY GAZETTE LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that the final general meeting of the above company, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Monday 22 May 1995 at 10.30am.
The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the company's records.
10 April 1995
JGA Phillips
Liquidator

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO S.27 OF THE TRUSTEE ACT 1925
1. that any person having a knowledge of the JOHN WILLIAM SHEPHERDS FUND formerly of Carpenhurst House 67/80 Albert Embankment London SE1 7TS are required to communicate with L.HUGHES & CO, Solicitors whose address is given below
2. that any person having a CLAIM against or any INTEREST in the ESTATE of the deceased person whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of such claim or interest to the Solicitor mentioned below in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified after which date the assets of the deceased will be distributed to the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

GWEN Beatrice Mary formerly SEBASTIAN Beatrice Mary formerly FATTISON Beatrice Mary late of 159 Stenwight Road Streatham SW16 who died on the 7th August 1993 leave of estate £95,000. Particulars should be sent to A L Davis & Co, Solicitors, 2 High Street Streatham High Road Streatham London SW16 1HW before the 16th day of June 1995

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TR

Celtic Swing faces acid test at Newbury

By JULIAN MUSCAT

CELTIC SWING, the highly acclaimed champion two-year-old of last season, is to make his seasonal reappearance in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury a week on Saturday. It is most definitely a date for the diary.

Lady Herries, who trains the colt for Peter Savill, yesterday confirmed the starting point at her Angmering Park Estate, in Sussex. She also took the opportunity to show off the son of Damister, who has emerged from winter hibernation looking a picture.

This impression was enhanced by Celtic Swing's rich bay coat. But the colt, who glistened in bright morning sunshine, has enjoyed a trouble-free preparation for the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket, his first major assignment of the season.

Nap: WEE RIVER
(3.50 Sedgefield)
Next best: Nagobelia
(2.50 Sedgefield)

"We have chosen the Greenham because it is a stiff seven furlongs, it is close to home and we won't have to carry a penalty in the race," Lady Herries said. "The horse has won on good to soft and good to firm ground. But he won't be running anywhere if it is like a bog or a road."

Kevin Darley, who rode Celtic Swing to each of his three victories last season, is to put the colt through his paces on the all-weather gallop at Angmering tomorrow.

"Celtic Swing should be close to full fitness for Newbury," his trainer said. "I don't know whether we have stepped his work up in time for him to be 100 per cent, but the Derby is his main objective."

Savill, who bought the colt privately from his trainer's mother, Lavinia, the Duchess of Norfolk, 12 months ago, has even grander plans. His sights are set on the Triple Crown, comprising the 2,000 Guineas, Derby and St Leger. The last horse to complete it was Nijinsky 25 years ago.

Of course, talk of the Triple Crown is bound to generate the wildest expectations, and it is here that hype takes over from reality. William Hill were the first to strike, quoting Celtic Swing at a ludicrous 9-1 to sweep the classic board.

He may have been garlanded with the highest turf rating for a juvenile since the international classifications were first compiled, but Celtic Swing has much left to prove. The point was acknowledged by Bob Mason, who cares for the horse every day.

Mason showed the wisdom of his 62 years when he said yesterday: "I think it will take a very good horse to knock him back, but he has to prove himself on the racecourse. I have always said that I'll let the horse do the talking. There's no point making predictions."

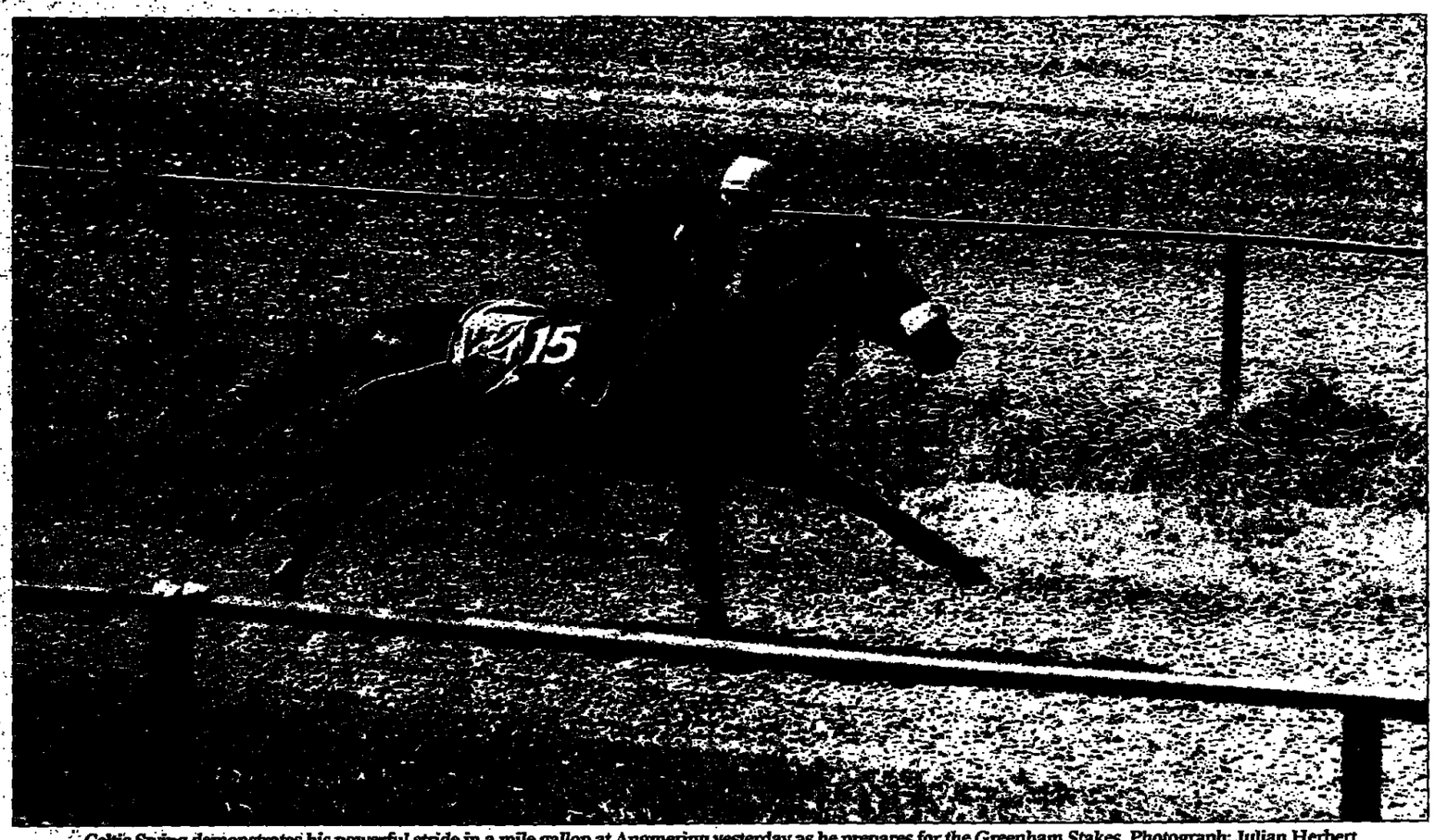
Lady Herries dismissed the concern that Celtic Swing is not blessed with the greatest of front legs. However, were he an unknown horse up for auction, few judges would select him as an ideal Derby candidate. On fast ground, as it often is in June, the gradients of Epsom could take their toll on this otherwise handsome thoroughbred.

Yet now is not the time to dwell on such matters. The prospect of his return to racing next week is exciting in the extreme. As he posed for the cameras yesterday, Celtic Swing also silenced inevitable rumours of his ill-health. "Look at the horse for yourself," Lady Herries insisted. "Peter Savill said he always thought there was a basis for rumours. Now he knows there isn't."

Sporting a sheepskin noseband, Celtic Swing galloped over a mile yesterday, showing the thunderous action that has so demoralised his opponents. "Last year he settled his races in a matter of strides," his trainer recalled. "They were galloping at 43mph in the Racing Post Trophy but it still wasn't fast enough for him."

Let us hope that remains the case. For behind talk of him growing, thickening, strengthening and thriving over the winter, the only thing certain at this early stage is that Celtic Swing is alive and well.

With Pennekamp, the French-trained colt, waiting in the wings, Celtic Swing has a formidable opponent to contend with. It will hardly be a season of processional victories, particularly if he has not progressed at the rate his connections believe.



Celtic Swing demonstrates his powerful stride in a mile gallop at Angmering yesterday as he prepares for the Greenham Stakes. Photograph: Julian Herbert

Worcester produces another void race

THE Cromwell Selling Hurdle at Worcester yesterday was declared void in the interests of safety, the day after a race at Kelso had also been ruled void.

Mark Perrett was knocked unconscious when unseated from Storm Heights at the first hurdle and was still prostrate, but receiving medical attention, as the field made their way back into the home straight.

The flight was dolled off and the remaining runners bypassed the hurdle on the orders of the course doctor, Stewart Wilkie, who was attending the stricken Perrett.

Six of the runners then jumped the final hurdle while the remainder pulled up with Persian Bud, partnered by Martin Bosley, passing the post in front.

The clerk of the course, Hugo Bevan, explained: "Dr Wilkie was at the second-last hurdle and he was extremely concerned as Mark Perrett was unconscious and having severe respiratory problems. The doctor realised the race would be declared void, but was adamant the hurdle must not be jumped."

Perrett returned to the course after being discharged from Ronkswood Hospital, where he had undergone extensive examination.

The six jockeys who jumped the final flight were all fined. Martin Bosley, John Kavanagh and Diane Clay were fined £220, with conditionals Greg Robertson, Paul Midgley and Denis Leahy fined £110.

THUNDERER

2.20 Keep Battling
2.50 Nagobelia
3.20 Wait You There
3.50 Wee River
4.20 Final Chant
4.50 Another Venture

Brian Beel: 4.20 Final Chant.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.20 MONKEY PUZZLE NOVICES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,094: 2m 5f 110yd) (18 runners)

101	0/60-	MUFID 3725 (Exors of late R Lamb) D Lamb 5-11-10	Mr A Mustaas (7)	90
102	006-P04	GARBONI 26 (Mrs S Clarke) D Morton 6-11-8	D J Morton (5)	90
103	/515-500	RARE FIRE 25 (B,F,S) (Mrs J Askew) Mrs M Rowley 11-11-8	M Smith	–
104	00/UFO-	THE APPRENTICE 532 (Mrs J Oakey) W Oliver 9-11-4	Jacqui Oliver	–
105	613142	LUKS AKURA 29 (V,S) (Middleton Scriven) W Clay 7-11-3	Diane Clay	89
106	2P02P-6	KAUSAR 29 (bl) (Gosmoor) J Eyre 6-11-2	O Pears (3)	–
107	P-0P512	KEEP BATTLING 30 (S) (J Bolding) J Bolding 5-11-0	F Perratt (3)	–
108	/P000	NOSMO KING 26 (bl) (Mrs M Kendall) Mrs M Kendall 4-10-13	Mrs M Kendall	91
109	08-0000	TIGH-NA-MARA 8 (S Gordon) D Barsten 7-10-12	E Husband (5)	88
110	350-000	OMES THE TELL 134 (R Wood) R Wood 5-10-9	Mr L Donnelly (7)	90
111	2P6004	SHUT UP 29 (C,S) (G Moscrop) Mrs E Moscrop 5-10-9	P Niven	97
112	0/046-60	DEMTICULATA 117 (P Spotswood) P Spotswood 7-10-6	K Johnson	88
113	00F000	MISTI HUNTER 20 (J Hincaliffe) Miss M Milligan 6-10-7	Richard Guest	89
114	/PUFP-	ASTON COURT 87 (S) (T Easby) B Ellison 10-10-6	T Lumley (5)	–
115	000P9	KITTOCKSIDE LAD 12 (Scotsoute Racing Ltd) Mrs S Austey 5-10-6	D Williamson	87
116	405	TOSCANA 606-IK (Stocking) J Hetherton 5-10-5	D Dalton	–
117	6/6F-P0P	MY TURN NEXT 25 (A Wilde) K Hogg 7-10-5	S Wynne	–
118	PP-RR44	ARTHUR BEE 44 (Mrs D Bousfield) B Bousfield 8-10-4	G Lee (5)	–

BETTING: 7-2 Lets Abuzz, 4-1 Keep Battling, 6-1 Kausar, 7-1 Garboni, 8-1 Rare Fire, Shut Up, 12-1 Tuscana, 14-1 Arthur Bee, 16-1 others.

1994: HOT PUNCH 5-10-11 P Waggott (5-2 fav) H Alexander 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

GARBONI 15Nl 4th of 20 to Barney's Gift in shaping novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to firm) with NOSMO KING (2lb better off) 30l1 5th and RARE FIRE (3lb worse off) 30l1 15th. RARE FIRE best effort this term 30l1 5th of 10 to Tenacious in claiming chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good). LUKS AKURA 2l 2nd of 21 to Five Flags in selling handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). KAUSAR 42l4f 6th of 18 to Island Chief in novice hurdle at Nottingham (2m 3f 110yd, soft). KEEP BATTLING best effort 19l4 in 14-runner selling novice hurdle at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. SHUT UP 51l last of 4 to Super Sandy in novice chase at Hexham (2m 110yd, heavy).
Selection: KEEP BATTLING

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%
Miss M Rowley	72	240	30.0
T Tate	5	17	29.4
T Pitt	3	16	27.8
H Alexander	3	12	25.0
M H Easterby	24	100	24.0

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Jacqui Oliver	4	8	50.0
G Lee	7	21	33.3
P Niven	58	197	29.4
L Wyer	28	115	24.3
M Dwyer	29	139	20.9

RACELINE
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0891 168: [illegible]

SEDGEFIELD	101	201
F'KESTONE	102	202
W'HAMPTON	103	203
THURLES	120	220

MATCHES PLAYED 5 APRIL '95
LITTLEWOODS POOLS
THIS WEEK'S TOP WINNERS ON THE NEW 3-2-1 POINTS SYSTEM INCLUDE
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE LADY £1,196,873 | £127,944 | £127,944
£126,595 | £125,378 | £125,378 | £125,378 | £124,370
FIRST DIVIDEND
14 Pts £123,343.73
13 Pts £2,470.55
12 Pts £118.85
11 Pts £37.80
10 Pts £4.75
9 Pts £66.35
4 DRAWS £50.50
10 HOMES £94.05
5 AWAYS £1.00
SCORE DRAW (1-1,2-2 etc) 3 PTS
NO SCORE DRAW (0-0 OR VOID MATCH) 2 PTS
WIN - HOME OR AWAY 1 PT
GRAND NATIONAL DOUBLE CHANCE POOL
NO CLIENT WITH THE FIRST FOUR HORSES IN CORRECT ORDER - Nos. 56, 53, 92, 22.
NO CLIENT WITH THE FIRST FOUR HORSES IN ANY ORDER.
FOR COUPONS PHONE FREE 0500 600 000 - 24hrs

2.50 JOHN JOYCE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,724: 2m 1f 110yd) (6)

201	113440	NAGOBELIA 27 (F,S,S) (Stockton Racing) J Pearce 7-11-13	J McLaughlin	92
202	435422	WHAT IF 13 (D,F,S,S) (B Culley) D Brennan 11-11-8	M Brennan	82
203	311-P50	TIP IT IN 27 (D,S,S) (Mrs M Dowling) A Smith 8-11-9	S Turner	94
204	100601	SOLAR NOVA 16 (CD,S) (Mrs C Pell) I Pell 7-10-11 (Bet)	N Smith	84
205	320500	STAGS FELL 75 (CD,F,S) (Mrs J Cuthbert) T Cuthbert 10-10-3	Carol Cuthbert	83
206	00P	NUWAY 43 (T Barnes) M Barnes 5-10-0	B Cahill (7)	–

Long handicap: Nuway 9-12.

BETTING: 2-1 What If, 5-2 Nagobelia, 3-1 Solar Nova, 5-1 Stags Fell, 10-1 Tip It In, 25-1 Nuway.

1994: ANY DREAM WOULD DO 5-10-0 C Hawkins (6-1) P Bowmore 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

NAGOBELIA best recent effort ahead 4l 4th of 14 to Whippers Delight in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft). WHAT IF 14l 2nd of 22 to Classic Exhibit in Huntingdon selling handicap hurdle (2m 110yd, good to firm). TIP IT IN 56l 5th of 6 to Tea Maker in Southwell handicap hurdle (2m, soft) penultimate start. SOLAR NOVA best Topsoft) penultimate start. STAGS FELL best recent effort 35½l 6th of 9 to Knights in handicap hurdle here (2m 5f 110yd, good). NUWAY 27l 7th of 8 to Saucy Sal in novice hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) penultimate start.
Selection: WHAT IF (nap)

3.20 REG AND RIDLEY LAMB MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,089: 2m 5f) (8 runners)

301	1301-P3	INVASION 13 (B,CD,F,S,S) (Lady Anne Bendach) O Brennan 11-12-0	M Brennan	91
302	11P5-33	WHAT YOU THERE 28 (CD,F,S,S) (H Alexander) H Alexander 10-11-11	Mr S Swiers	92
303	3113122	HUTNER 7l6 (C,D,F,S,S) (J Wade) J Wade 10-11-8	K Jones	–
304	411PAP	REBAN 20 (CD,F,S,S) (Miss L Johnson) J Johnson 8-11-7	M A Fitzgerald	95
305	3-P4P30	BUCKS SURPRISE 23 (S) (Mrs L Morton) J Mackie 7-11-2	J F Titley	93
306	/RVP-	HI JANE 397P (F,S,S) (P Seagrave) Mrs A Haughton 11-11-0	J Supple (5)	–
307	14/222-2	MILITARY SECRET 197 (F,S) (Mrs E Moscrop) Mrs E Moscrop 8-10-12	P Niven	92
308	45125P	ANOTHER RED 12 (S) (W Rew) W Rew 7-10-1	G Hogan (5)	–

BETTING: 5-2 Wait You There, 3-1 Invasion, 5-1 Military Secret, 6-1 Another Red, 7-1 Hutner, 8-1 Bucks Surprise, 12-1 Reban, 25-1 Hi Jane.

1994: MORGANS HARBOUR 8-11-4 N Smith (13-8 fav) Mrs M Rowley 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

INVASION 29l1 3rd of 10 to Fiddle Street in handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to firm). WHAT YOU THERE 7l 3rd of 5 to One For The Pot in amateurs' handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to firm). HUTNER 4l 2nd of 8 to Balmoral in Wetherby handicap chase (2m 5f, good to firm) May 19th. REBAN 15½l 4th of 8 to Boarding School in Edinburgh handicap chase (2m 4f, good to soft) penultimate start. BUCKS SURPRISE 33½l 3rd of 17 to Sailors Luck in Doncaster handicap chase (2m 3f 110yd, good) penultimate start. MILITARY SECRET 11l 2nd of 8 to Down The Road in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good) April 4th. ANOTHER RED best recent effort 11 2nd of 5 to Glidigo in handicap chase here (2m 1f, good).
Selection: INVASION

3.50 VAUX BREWERIES SEDGEFIELD CHAMPION NOVICES CHASE
(£5,506: 2m 1f) (9 runners)

401	112111	WEE RIVER 20 (D,F,S,S) (Mrs S Moore) G Moore 8-12-0	J Callaghan	92
402	66PF5F	CASTLE RAINBER 10 (F,S) (Mrs M Quinn) M Barnes 8-11-2	P Waggott	85
403	4F60-00	FLOWING RIVER 10 (F,S) (Mrs A Hailey) W Burter 9-11-2	G Hanlan	90
404	18-3550	MR BEEMER 188 (F,S,S) (John Wade) J Wade 7-11-2	K Jones	–
405	44/P	NIAD 92 (J Johnson) J Johnson 11-11-2	M A Fitzgerald	–
406	044000	QUARTZ HILL 72 (D Pryde) D Lamb 8-11-2	Mr A Manners	–
407	1236-66	THE TOASTER 48 (S) (Mrs K Dwyer) J Quinn 8-11-2	M Dwyer	–
408	1/03-14	BOLD MELODY 160 (S) (Lee) S Mellor 6-10-11	R Garrity	–
409	44/6F3-0	DIZZY DEALER 184 (S) (Mrs R Barr) R Barr 8-10-11	N Smith	–

BETTING: 4-5 Wee River, 4-1 Bold Melody, 5-1 The Toaster, 8-1 Flowing River, 12-1 Castle Ranger, 16-1 Mr Beemer, 25-1 Niad, 33-1 others.

1994: EXPLOSIVE SPEED 6-11-9 C Grant (6-1) M Hammond 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

WEE RIVER completed hat-trick beat St Elmo's Fire 1¼l in 9-runner novice chase at Kelso (2m 1f, good to firm) with CASTLE RANGER 12¾l 5th. Earlier beat Rapid Mover 9l in 11-runner novice chase at Edinburgh (2m, good to soft) with QUARTZ HILL 25l 6th and 48l 9th. FLOWING RIVER 30l 9th of 16 to Mills Hill in novice handicap chase at Kelso (2m 1f, good) with CASTLE RANGER (9lb worse off) fell 1st. MR BEEMER 18l 12th of 20 to Wake Up in handicap hurdle here (2m 1f 110yd, good). THE TOASTER 21½l 6th of 7 to Call My Guest in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, soft). BOLD MELODY 28½l 4th of 7 to Ask Welcome in claiming marde at Kelso (2m 2f, firm).
Selection: WEE RIVER

4.20 STANLEY THOMPSON MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE
(Amateurs: £2,303: 3m 3f) (5 runners)

501	135-1	FINAL CHANT 12P (C,F,S,S) (D Brydon) D Brydon 14-11-9	R H Brown (5)	93
502	43-232	GUNMETAL BOY 33P (V,F,S,S) (P Russell) Miss Russell 11-11-9	Miss P Robson (7)	94
503	11-4P	HELLCATMUDWRESTLER 12P (F,S) (H Bell) H Bell 14-11-6	Miss T Gray (7)	95
504	12-P55	IVEAGH LAD 19P (F,S,S) (P Stanley) Miss J Stanley 9-11-5	Mr F Smith (7)	96
505	0F605-4	OLIVILL CROSSETT 36 (Mrs K Woodhead) E Caine 10-11-0	K Green (7)	–

BETTING: 5-4 Final Chant, 7-4 Gunmetal Boy, 4-1 Iveagh Lad, 10-1 Hellcatmudwrestler, 20-1 Olivill Crossett.

1994: GOBBINS HILL 7-11-12 J Gosnell (5-6 fav) P Cheesbrough 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

FINAL CHANT best Wily William 4l in 11-runner open at Wetherby (good to soft). GUNMETAL BOY 7l 2nd of 5 to Buddie B Up in members at Dalston (heavy). HELLCATMUDWRESTLER 21l 4th of 10 to Orange Pageus in ladies' open at Marden (good) penultimate start. IVEAGH LAD 25l 5th of 6 to Elegant Guest in open at Marden (good).
Selection: FINAL CHANT

4.50 JUMP INTO SPRING NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,495: 2m 1f 110yd) (15 runners)

601	0-14545	ANOTHER VENTURE 23 (S) (R Wheeler) G Moore 5-11-6	M Bentley	89
602	0P00-P0	ABSOLUTELYMUSTARD 47 (Mrs M Roger) J Jefferson 6-11-0	J F Titley	–
603	0PP06	CLIVINE 30 (S) (Lyall Dress) T Tate 5-11-0	R Garrity	88
604	2-3335	DOWN THE FELL 12 (J Relton) J Johnson 5-11-0	M A Fitzgerald	97
605	6-43500	KNUCKLEBUSTER 38 (A Rowland) R Fahey 5-11-0	M Dwyer	86
606	0-0	MIGHTY EXPRESS 28 (Mrs C Pell) I Pell 8-11-0	J Callaghan	90
607	060	PARADISE ROW 54 (F Wilson) M H Easterby 5-11-0	L Wyer	73
608	00	ROSTMO 150 (J Wade) J Wade 6-11-0	K Jones	–
609	05P05-5	SUMLA BAY 22 (Lady Anne Bendach) D Brennan 7-11-0	M Brennan	71
610	30P424	VAL DE RAMA 23 (D Mountain) Denys Smith 6-11-0	P Niven	98
611	00	MISS NAOMI 23 (Mrs K Halliday) D Moffat 6-10-9	D J Moffat (5)	76
612	0-PPP	MY SONNY 55 (W Pavey) J Dodds 5-10-9	Mr A Manners (7)	–
613		RIVER RAMBLE (Mrs S Slatter) T Cox 5-10-9	K Johnson	–
614	02	VALISKY 29 (D Leggate) B Allan 5-10-6	G Melrose (7)	–
615	00	BAD BENTZ 12 (Bishop 1 Racing (1993) Ltd) W Elsey 4-10-5	D Byrne	–

BETTING: 7-2 Another Venture, 4-1 Down The Fell, 8-2 Knucklebuster, 5-1 Val de Rama, 10-1 Valisky, Clivine, Sumla Bay, 12-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ANOTHER VENTURE 20l 4th of 9 to Sparkling Cove in novice/ handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, heavy) penultimate start. CLIVINE 11l 6th of 16 to Tribune in novice/ handicap hurdle over course and distance (good). DOWN THE FELL 16¾l 5th of 18 to Livia in novice hurdle here (2m 5f 110yd, good). KNUCKLEBUSTER 23½l 8th of 15 to Colesbourne Dr Reads in Edinburgh maiden hurdle (2m, good). PARADISE ROW 39l 9th of 16 to House Captain in Newcastle novice hurdle (2m 4f, good to soft). SUMLA BAY 14l 5th of 9 to Rassal in amateurs' handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft). VAL DE RAMA 9l 4th of 18 to Wise Advice in Newcastle novice hurdle (2m 110yd, good to firm) with ANOTHER VENTURE 11l 5th and MISS NAOMI 11l 9th. VALISKY 59½l 2nd to Daisy Days in Wetherby NH flat race (2m, heavy).
Selection: DOWN THE FELL

Exeter

Going: firm

2.20 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Exclusive Edition (J Osborne, 4-1); 2, Court Master (Evens fav); 3, Ballagh Countess (12-1). 14 ran. 1¼l, 1¼l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £5.30; £1.80, £1.50, £1.30. DF: £4.40. Trio: £15.00. CSF: £7.86.

2.50 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Serious Danger (J Osborne, 7-4 fav); 2, Flawed Logic (9-4); 3, The Frog Lady (12-1). 12 ran. 1¼l, 4l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £2.90; £1.20, £1.30, £2.60. DF: £2.50. Trio: £9.20. CSF: £6.18.

3.20 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Green Island (Peter Hobbs, 7-4 fav); 2, The Minder (4-1); 3, Lustrino (11-4). 6 ran. ½l, 31l. A Dunn. Tote: £3.20; £1.90, £1.60. DF: £3.90. CSF: £9.20.

3.50 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, Abu Muslab (M A Fitzgerald, 6-1); 2, Festival Dreams (6-1); 3, Congregation (6-1). Lackandans 10-1 fav, 7 ran. 1¾l, hd. G Edwards. Tote: £9.10; £2.60, £2.80. DF: £18.20. CSF: £38.21.

4.20 (2m 7f 110yd ch) 1, Ross Graham (E Byrne, 4-1); 2, Dannymoss (9-2). Only two finished. 6 ran. NR: Prince Soloman. Dist. Mrs B Waring. Tote: £6.60; £2.30, £2.60. DF: £11.50. CSF: £19.47.

4.50 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Stapleford Lady (S Fox, 4-1); 2, Beam Me Up Scotty (7-2); 3, Roca Murada (9-4 fav). 6 ran. 2½l, 3½l. J Moore. Tote: £4.60; £1.70, £1.90. DF: £9.80. CSF: £17.21.

Placepot: £96.10. Quadpot: £62.70 (part won. Pool of £36.19 carried forward to Sedgefield today).

Worcester

Going: good

2.00 (2m hdle) — Void race.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, Jacob's Wife (G McCourt, 16-1); 2, Glamour Game (5-1); 3, Lankridge (8-1). Absolutely Average 4-1 fav. 20 ran. NR: More Dash Thancsish, Slip A Con. 6l, 1¼l. J Webber. Tote: £19.40; £4.80, £2.50. £3.90. DF: £42.80. Trio: £257.50. CSF: £104.68.

3.00 (2m 7f ch) 1, Wise Approach (N Williamson, 11-2); 2, Wolf Winter (6-1); 3, Cropredy Lad (20-1). Onesumpranship 4-7 fav. 18 ran. 5l, 1¼l. K Bailey. Tote: £8.80; £2.80, £2.40, £2.20. DF: £45.90. Trio: £150.00. CSF: £35.43.

3.30 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Musicora (Mr J Creighton, 8-1 fav); 2, Glen Mirage (100-1); 3, Hostile Witness (14-1). 4, Cunninghams Ford (6-1). 18 ran. 2¾l, nk. P Hobbs. Tote: £3.20; £1.30, £10.50, £4.10, £2.00. DF: £969.50. Trio: £359.50. CSF: £221.03. Tricast: £3,460.68.

4.00 (3m ch) 1, Metal Oiseau (Richard Guest, 8-1); 2, Young Ty (11-4 jt-fav); 3, Royal Piper (11-1). Going Around 11-4 jt-fav. 10 ran. 2¾l, 3l. K Cunningham-Brown. Tote: £6.60; £2.00, £1.80, £3.80. DF: £19.00. Trio: £59.90. CSF: £29.05. Tricast: £225.43.

4.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Celtino (R Farrant, 5-1); 2, Four Hearts (16-1); 3, Cantonis Frazer (14-1). Distinctive 11-4 fav. 12 ran. NR: Lord Webber. Tote: £19.40; £4.80, £2.50. £3.90. DF: £42.80. Trio: £257.50. CSF: £104.68.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £5,123.32 carried forward to Sedgefield today).

Placepot: £718.20. Quadpot: £125.60 (part won. Pool of £25.48 carried forward to Sedgefield today).

Hamilton Park

Going: soft (good to soft in places)

2.10 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, Ivan The Terrible (S Whitworth, 8-1); 2, Stash The Cash (5-4 fav); 3, Running Green (33-1). 13 ran. 2l, sh hd. S Ellison. Tote: £10.10; £1.90, £1.80, £3.40. DF: £5.90. Trio: £120.10. CSF: £17.38.

2.40 (6f 5yd) 1, Panther (N Kennedy, 6-1); 2, Cledeschamps (20-1); 3, Abigails Boy (6-1); 4, Blow Dry (18-1). Birchwood Sun 5-1 fav. 17 ran. 2½l, hd. J Hetherton. Tote: £6.20; £2.00, £11.90, £1.50, £2.90. DF: £94.30. Trio: £126.50. CSF: £111.88. Tricast: £700.73.

3.10 (5l 4yd) 1, Chalbang Bang (G Carter, 2-1 fav); 2, Gagajulu (33-1); 3, Rainthepost (7-2). 6 ran. Hd, nk. J Berry. Tote: £2.30; £1.30, £2.10. DF: £6.00. CSF: £8.83.

3.40 (1m 65yd) 1, Hamilton Silk (J Fortune, 6-1); 2, Ricana (6-2); 3, Sur Fossa (9-1). Chasteboon 6-4 fav. 7 ran. 6l, 31½l. M Meagher. Tote: £8.00; £2.00, £2.80. DF: £16.70. CSF: £29.99. Bought in 5,200gns.

4.10 (1m 3f 16yd) 1, Cool Lake (M Tebbutt, 4-5 fav); 2, Hitzah (4-1); 3, Tanah Merah (4-1). 7 ran. 2½l, 9l. G Moore. Tote: £1.60; £1.50, £1.90. DF: £3.00. CSF: £4.46.

4.40 (1m 4f 17yd) 1, The Premier Expres (G MacDonald, 9-4 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Zashayah (4-1); 3, Milagueve (14-1). 8 ran. 7l, 7l. F O'Mahony. Tote: £4.20; £2.10, £1.20, £2.20. DF: £8.20. CSF: £10.55. Tricast: £91.76.

Placepot: £49.50. Quadpot: £22.30.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Folkestone: 3.10 Dynamic Deluxe. 3.40 Famous Dancer. Wolverhampton: 4.00 Christian Flight.

TODAY'S POINT-TO-POINT: Mid Devon, Clyst St Mary, 5 miles east of Exeter (first race, 2.00).

FOLKESTONE

THUNDER

2.10 Banana Cove. 2.40 Sure Pride. 3.10 Rosie-B. 3.40 I Have Him. 4.10 The Whip. 4.40 HURRICANE BLAKE (nap). 5.10 Fred's Boy.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.10 ROSIE-B.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.10 BANANA COVE (nap).

GOING: FIRM SIS

2.10 EASTLING MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,850: 2m 1f 110yd) (15 runners)

1	6203	ARAMON 31 M Haynes 5-11-10	D Skyrme	91
2	P55-	LAUGHING GAS 220 C Brooks 6-11-10	D Gallagher	77
3	0P-	NEOLOGIST 557 J O'Donoghue 8-11-10	A Tory	–
4	0-3	PAIR OF JACKS 7F O Wilson 5-11-10	A Maguire	78
5		BAOS ASSAYF 226F P Mitchell 5-11-10	Mr R Teal	–
6		RAZ B De Haan 8-11-10	S McNeill	–
7	-366	SUSSEX MAESTRO 31 F Gray 5-11-10	M Crosse	81
8		TARTAN DANCER 1312F Mrs A Mitchell 6-11-10	R Rowett	–
9	00	WOODMANS STAR 27 J Sheehan 5-11-10	R Johnson (7)	–
10	50F	HONEY VISION 143 D Browning 6-11-5	Peter Hobbs	80
11		SHARP GAZELLE 24F B Smart 5-11-5	B Powell	–
12	PP-P	SWEET FRIENDSHIP 21 Mrs L Jewett 7-11-5	J Railton	–
13	0-P0	TOP MISS 23 A Moores 6-11-5	J R Kavanagh	86
14	355	BANANA COVE 17 Mrs J Cecil 4-11-4	T Ives	88
15		GAZA LIGHTS 201F K Bailey 4-11-4	M Williamson	–

5-2 Banana Cove, 4-1 Ivanmon, 5-1 Top Miss, 7-1 Laughing Gas, 8-1 Sharp Gazelle, 10-1 Pair Of Jacks, 16-1 others.

2.40 LEAVELAND NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,763: 3m 2f) (5)

1	5-36	RUBINS BOY 15 (F) N Walker 5-11-10	N Williamson	84
2	0/4P	SURE PRIDE 42F (F,S) A Moore 7-11-10	D Bellamy	–
3	0-00	SHOCK TACTICS 54 (S) B De Haan 8-10-12	S McNeill	–
4	60F2	DONNA DEL LAGO 21 (B,F) Mrs M McCourt 9-10-12	G McCourt	–
5	3436	FAWLEY FLYER 15 (F,S) W G M Turner 6-10-4	C Maude	–

6-4 Donna Del Lago, 3-1 Fawley Flyer, 4-1 Rubins Boy, 5-1 Sure Pride, 8-1 Shock Tactics.

3.10 THROWLEY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,328: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

1	/00-	MEADOW COTTAGE 486 J Gifford 9-11-10	P Hide	80
2	P40P	DYNAMIC DELUXE 38 (V) S Sherwood 4-11-6	J Osborne	83
3	3568	DAWN FLIGHT 8 J Jenkins 6-11-5	N Williamson	82
4	0P0	LITTLE DASI 38 Mrs J Pitman 5-11-3	W Marston	83
5	4635	SCUD MISSILE 22 G Johnson Houghton 4-11-1	A Thornton	80
6	/P0	KENNETT SQUARE 82 Lady Eliza Mays-Smith 8-10-10	J A McCarthy	–
7	0044	PRINCE MASHA 10 K Cunningham-Brown 5-10-7	A Maguire	–
8	0642	ROSIE-B 10 R Stronge 5-10-3	A P McCoy	87
9	0PP0	TULLYKYNE BELLS 22 L Snook 6-10-3	W McFarland	87

3-1 Rosie-B, 7-2 Dawn Flight, 9-2 Little Dasi, 5-1 Dynamic Deluxe, 6-1 Meadow Cottage, 8-1 Scud Missile, 10-1 others.

3.40 CHARING NOVICES CHASE (£2,872: 2m) (8)

1	2224	I HAVE HIM 16 (D,F,S) A Jones 8-12-0	M Williamson	89
2	05R0	FAMOUS DANCER 13 (V,S) J Jenkins 7-11-2	J Railton	88
3	0P54	GOOD SPARK 10 (F,S,S) S Woodman 9-11-2	A P McCoy	82
4		LUCKHAM STYLE 155F Mrs B Waring 7-11-2	S Byrne	–
5	4563	MY SENOR 10 (S) M Madgwick 8-11-2	R Dicks	85
6	/PP	NANDA MOON 12 (F) A Barrow 8-11-2	P Powell	–
7	00P5	PRETTY BOY GEORGE 139 K Cheesbrough 6-11-2	Mr G Brown	–
8	2P02	PRINCE TINO 22 (F) N Gaselee 7-11-2	C Llewellyn	91

4-5 I Have Him, 11-4 Prince Tino, 6-1 Good Spark, 8-1 My Senor, 12-1 Nanda Moon, 16-1 Famous Dancer, 20-1 Luckham Style, 25-1 Pretty Boy George.

4.10 BARMING HANDICAP CHASE (£2,856: 2m 5f) (5)

1	6311	THE WHIP 10 (D,F,S,S) D Gilsenan 8-12-1 (5ex)	Peter Hobbs	88
2	3102	COURT RAPIER 31 (F,S,S) R Alner 13-11-6	A Maguire	93
3	P-0P	MONKSANDER 86 (S) P Hitchens 9-11-6	S Fox (5)	86
4	5326	FIGHTING DAYS 10 (V,D,F,S) A Moore 9-11-4	B Powell	97
5	5P3F	BLACK CHURCH 14 R Rowe 9-10-13	D O'Sullivan	97

4-5 The Whip, 4-1 Court Rapier, 9-2 Fighting Days, 6-1 Black Church, 8-1 Monksander.

4.40 TENYHAM HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,449: 2m 6f 110yd) (7)

1	P563	HURRICANE BLAKE 8 (B,D,F,S) D Gilsenan 7-11-10	Peter Hobbs	98
2	P213	WEE WINDY 23 (S,S) J Gifford 8-11-10	P Hide	93
3	6063

Pick your Fantasy First XI and win £10,000

Our new, improved cricket game offers you the chance to celebrate the start of another season and put your selection skills to the test

THE cricket season starts *today* and *The Times* cricket game returns with it, bigger and better than before with the chance to win £250 a week during the season and, for the best performance of the summer, a top prize of £10,000.

In association with Company Barclaycard, the United Kingdom's leading corporate charge card, we have renewed our exclusive arrangement with the Test and County Cricket Board to present *The Times* Fantasy First XI. The great strengths of last year's game, First Class XI, have been preserved. It is up to you to select the team you think will sweep the board. Every first-class run your players score and every first-class wicket they take will count towards your total. There are no artificial additives, no handicaps, no ratings, no transfer fees, just a test of your selection skills and your eye for first-class talent.

But we have introduced some big improvements. We have simplified the rules, deepened the pool of players and introduced the chance to change your team during the season.

We have added the West Indies touring party to our list of overseas players, making the likes of Brian Lara, Jimmy Adams, Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose, available for selection. We have dispensed with the captains' category and replaced the reserve system with a transfer season.

Starting on May 4, we will carry the full list of players' first-class scores and the names of the top 100 entries every Thursday, but, for the first time, we are also providing a Fantasy First XI hotline, so you can check your team's progress when it suits you.

This year, there is a new service designed to enable groups of players at home or at work to measure their selection skills against each other by forming a mini-league. You will also be able to enter an office team and try to win the Company Barclaycard League. Full details of these services will be published next week.

The rules are simple:
1) Select five batsmen.
2) Select one all-rounder.
3) Select one wicketkeeper.
4) Select four bowlers.
5) Your Fantasy First XI must include one (and no more than one) overseas player.
6) Your Fantasy First XI must include one (and no more than one) rising star.

All players must be selected according to the categories published here (for example a player such as Graeme Hick, listed here as an all-rounder, may only be selected as an all-rounder not as a batsman; Phillip DeFreitas is listed here as an all-rounder — he may not be selected as a bowler).

There will be a seven-day transfer season (July 12-18, when no first-class cricket is due to be played), during which you will be able to change up to four members of your team, although your final XI must still conform to the six rules above. You do not have to change your team at all, but, if you choose to, you will receive the points scored by your original selection up to July 12 and those scored by the revised selection from the moment first-class play resumes on July 18.

Apart from these transfers, no changes will be allowed. No substitutions can be made, so it is worth bearing in mind the injury records of the players available. If a player is not playing first-class cricket, then he is not scoring in the Fantasy First XI.

Scoring: you score according to the performance of your players. For every run each of your XI scores, you will receive one point. For each wicket they take, you will receive 20 points. For each dismissal (catch or stumping) your wicketkeeper makes, you will receive 20 points. Catches taken by other fielders will not count. The object of the game is to select the team which will score the most points in the course of the season.

In the event of a tie, the scores of the rising star will be decisive. If another tie-break is necessary, its form will be decided by *The Times* Fantasy First XI panel.

Fixtures: *The Times* Fantasy First XI season runs from today (April 13) until September 18 but the deadline for entries is noon, April 27. Postal entries must be received by April 27. Only first-class matches, as designated by the Test and County Cricket Board, throughout the season (including those played before the closing date for entries to this competition) will count. One-day games do not count.

As last year, you can enter by phone or by post. Phone calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. An average call should last no more than six minutes.

Please note that postal entries must be accompanied by a fee of £2.50, and cheques should be made payable to *The Times* Fantasy First XI.

England regulars may not provide the most points

BY SIMON WILDE

CHOOSING a team for the *Fantasy First XI competition* involves many delicate decisions. If your first-choice players are affected by injuries and dramatic losses of form, there will be nothing you can do about replacing them until the transfer period arrives in mid-July. But there are ways in which you can enhance the prospects of your side from the outset.

One is to think carefully before choosing any player who might be called on regularly by England, who are involved in a Texaco Trophy series and six Test matches against West Indies. The Texaco Trophy will deprive all *the England players except* those from Surrey of one first-class match for their counties — and their performances in the three one-day internationals will not, of course, count towards the Fantasy First XI game.

And, while runs scored, wickets taken and wicket-keeping dismissals accomplished in the Test matches will count, these will be all the harder to come by against the might of West Indies. Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting, who have retired from international cricket and might be expected to score heavily in the less fierce environment of county cricket, could well be more productive selections than, say, Michael Atherton and Darren Gough, who will miss seven and six championship matches respectively if they play in every England international.

Other shrewd selections might be those players who spend the summer pushing hard to regain their England places — players, perhaps, such as Robin Smith, Andrew Caddick and Martin McCague.

Another delicate decision is the choice of overseas player. Thirteen players are listed below who are expected to be included in the West Indies tour party, which will not be announced until later this month. They offer some valuable options, such as Brian Lara, Jimmy Adams, Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose, but it should be borne in mind that the West Indians' 14 first-class matches outside the Test matches may be used partly as preparation for the internationals.

An alternative is to select one of the overseas players attached to first-class counties. Seventeen such cricketers are listed below, Surrey, the eighteenth county, having not yet confirmed their choice in the wake of Waqar Younis's injury problems.

It should be noted that a number of overseas county players will not join their teams until after the season has begun and will miss fixtures as a result. Manoj Prabhakar, who is playing in Sharjah, will miss Durham's match with Oxford University starting today and Mark Waugh, who is touring the Caribbean with Australia, will not join Essex until May 16. By then, his county will have completed championship matches against Leicestershire and Worcestershire and a three-day fixture with Cambridge University.

Ottis Gibson, Glamorgan's nominated overseas player, will not learn until April 21 whether he will be playing for them or touring with West Indies. If he is available to Glamorgan, he will join them in time for the start of their championship campaign but will have missed the county's match against Oxford University.

Aravinda de Silva, of Kent, Mushtaq Ahmed, of Somerset, and Wasim Akram, of Lancashire, may all leave their counties early to take part in a Test series between Pakistan and Sri Lanka scheduled for September.

A number of county cricketers may be taken away from their counties to play for England Under-19, who meet their South African counterparts in two one-day internationals and three Test matches between July 1 and August 13. Most prominent among these will be Marcus Trescothick, the England Under-19 captain, who will miss three championship matches for Somerset as a result. Under-19 matches are not first-class.

Neither Tom Moody, of Worcestershire, nor Michael Bevan, of Yorkshire, will be chosen for the Australia A party that will tour England and Wales in July and August. The Australia A players will be ineligible for the game.

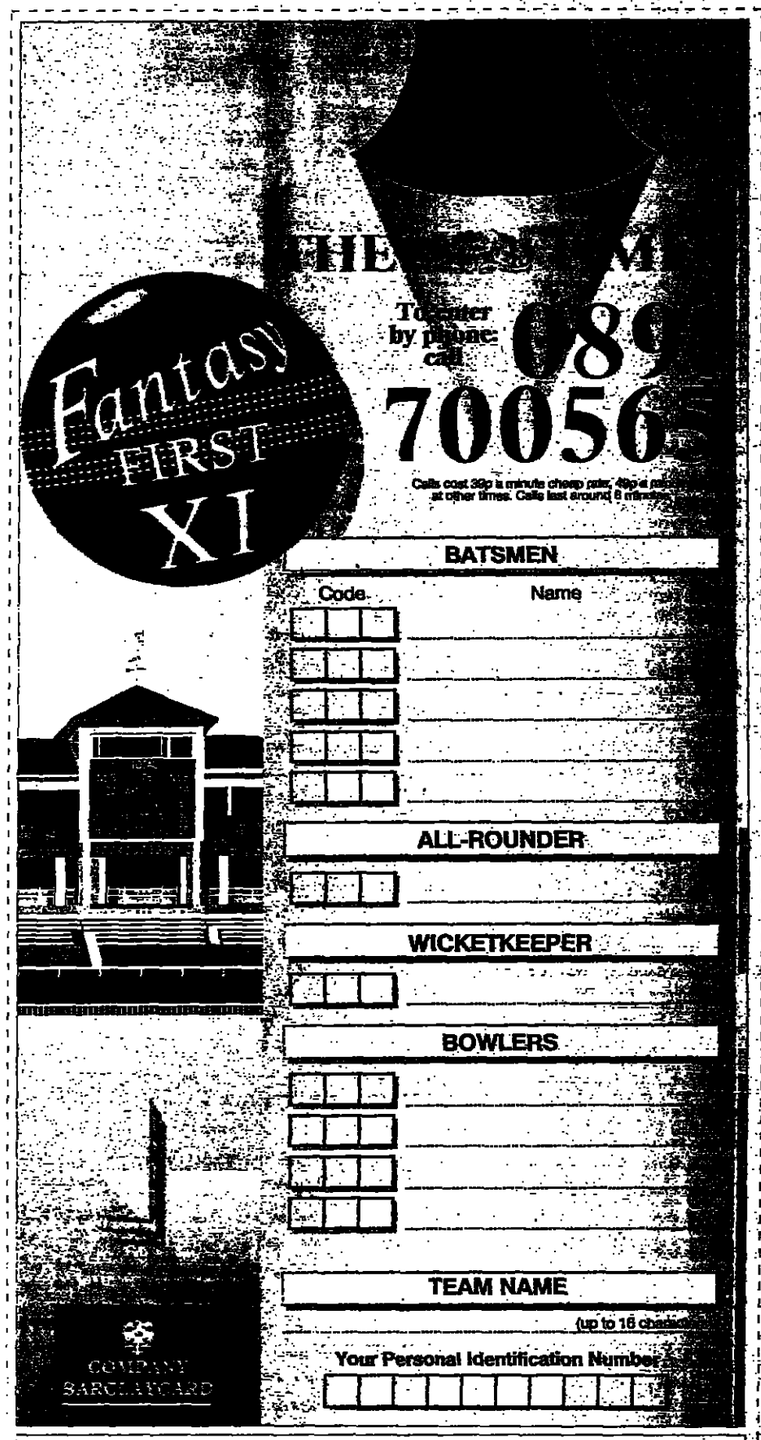
Two Oxford University players who join counties after the University match finishes on July 7 have been included: Gregor Macmillan, a batsman, will be added to Leicestershire's staff, and Richard Yeabsley will supplement Middlesex's bowling strength. Yeabsley's appearances for Oxford, though, may be restricted by examination demands.



Lara: 2,066 runs in 1994



Patel: 90 wickets in 1994



NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

AGE IF UNDER 18..... TELEPHONE NO.....

Send your entries to: Times Fantasy First XI
Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2 0NS

SELECT A TEAM TO BEAT THE BEST

There are six basic rules:
1) You must select five batsmen.
2) You must select one all-rounder.
3) You must select one wicketkeeper.
4) You must select four bowlers.
5) Your Fantasy First XI must include one (and no more than one) overseas player.
6) Your XI must include one (and no more than one) rising star.

All players must be selected according to the categories published below. Only matches designated first-class by the TCCB will count.

(1) In this section please enter the five batsmen you have selected from the lists below. You may only pick players listed (001-123) as batsmen. You may pick any number of players from the county but remember you may only select one overseas player and one rising star in your whole team. Every run your batsmen make and every wicket they take will count towards your team's total.

(2) Please enter your all-rounder. Selected all-rounders must be drawn from numbers 124-165, in this section.

(3) Your wicketkeeper must be drawn from numbers 166-185. He will score with each run and each catch or stumping.

(4) In this section please enter the four bowlers you have selected from the lists below. You may only pick players listed (186-287) as bowlers. Again, remember you may only select one overseas player and one rising star in your whole team. Every wicket your bowlers score and every run they make will count towards your total.

SCORING

For every run each of your XI scores, you will receive one point. For each wicket they take, you will receive 20 points. For each wicketkeeping dismissal (catch or stumping) your wicketkeeper makes, you will receive 20 points. Catches taken by other fielders will not count. The object of the game is to select the team which will score the most points in the course of the season.

How to enter by phone or post

THE 24-hour telephone lines are open now and close at noon on Thursday April 27, the day the Britannic Assurance County Championship begins. Runs scored and wickets taken in the first-class games before that date will count in Fantasy First XI. But beware the last-minute rush.

When you have selected your team, check what type of telephone you are using. You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You cannot enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. Once you have found a Touch-tone telephone, you can enter by dialling 0891 700565.

Then follow the step-by-step instructions. The recorded message will ask you to key in the full set of selections (player reference numbers) for each of your 11 chosen players in the following order: the five batsmen, the all-rounder, the wicketkeeper, the bowlers.

Make sure you have picked one overseas player and one rising star in your team. An incorrect entry will be void.

You will then be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) and to record your name, address and daytime phone number. Finally, you will be given a ten-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN). Please be patient. You have plenty of time to make your entry. Use *The Times Fantasy First XI* bat to record your selections and your PIN. Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. Each call will last about six minutes.

Competitors may give their teams any name of up to 16 characters. If a name is considered to be in poor taste by the panel, or if that name has been taken, the competitor's surname will be used.

Readers wishing to enter by post should complete their Fantasy First XI bat and send it (photocopies are not acceptable) with a cheque or postal order for £2.50 to *The Times* Fantasy First XI, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2 0NS. Cheques should be made payable to *The Times* Fantasy First XI.

All entries, whether by telephone or post, will be acknowledged. Queries should be made direct to Abacus on 0582 457444, quoting *The Times* Fantasy First XI.

FULL LIST OF FANTASY FIRST XI PLAYERS

Batsmen (001-123)

Pick five players from this category

001 C J Adams (Derbyshire)
002 J C Adams (West Indians)
003 G F Archer (Nottinghamshire)
004 K L T Arthurton (West Indians)
005 Asif Din (Warwickshire)
006 M A Atherton (Lancashire)
007 C W J Athey (Sussex)
008 R J Bailey (Northamptonshire)
009 K J Barnett (Derbyshire)
010 M R Benson (Kent)
011 M G Bevan (Yorkshire)
012 D J Bicknell (Surrey)
013 T J Boon (Leicestershire)
014 P D Bowler (Somerset)
015 N E Briers (Leicestershire)
016 A D Brown (Surrey)
017 D Byas (Yorkshire)
018 S L Campbell (West Indians)
019 J D Carr (Middlesex)
020 S Chanderpaul (West Indians)
021 M Church (Worcestershire)
022 P A Cottey (Glamorgan)
023 G R Cowdrey (Kent)
024 J P Crawley (Lancashire)
025 W J Cronje (Leicestershire)
026 D J Cullinan (Derbyshire)
027 T S Curtis (Worcestershire)
028 J A Daley (Durham)
029 R I Dawson (Gloucestershire)
030 P A de Silva (Kent)
031 M P Dowman (Nottinghamshire)
032 N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)
033 A Fordham (Northamptonshire)
034 J E R Gallian (Lancashire)
035 M W Gatting (Middlesex)
036 G A Gooch (Essex)
037 A P Grayson (Yorkshire)
038 K Greenfield (Sussex)
039 J W Hall (Sussex)
040 T H C Hancock (Gloucestershire)
041 R J Harden (Somerset)
042 A N Hayhurst (Somerset)
043 G R Haynes (Worcestershire)
044 D L Hemp (Glamorgan)
045 G D Hodgson (Gloucestershire)
046 A J Hollioake (Surrey)
047 N Hussain (Essex)
048 * S Hutton (Durham)
049 S P James (Glamorgan)
050 P Johnson (Nottinghamshire)
051 M Keech (Hampshire)
052 S A Kellett (Yorkshire)
053 N V Knight (Warwickshire)
054 A J Lamb (Northamptonshire)
055 B C Lara (West Indians)
056 M N Lathwell (Somerset)
057 W Larkins (Durham)
058 D A Leatherdale (Worcestershire)
059 N J Lenham (Sussex)
060 J J B Lewis (Essex)
061 N J Llong (Kent)
062 G D Lloyd (Lancashire)
063 I J Longley (Durham)
064 M B Love (Northamptonshire)
065 M A Lynch (Gloucestershire)
066 G I Macmillan (Oxford Univ and Leicestershire)
067 M P Maynard (Glamorgan)
068 A A Metcalfe (Yorkshire)
069 T C Middleton (Hampshire)
070 A J Moles (Warwickshire)
071 * S P Montgomerie (Northamptonshire)
072 T M Moody (Worcestershire)
073 H Morris (Glamorgan)
074 J E Morris (Durham)
075 R S M Morris (Hampshire)
076 M D Moxon (Yorkshire)
077 M C J Nicholas (Hampshire)
078 T J G O'Gorman (Derbyshire)
079 D P Ostler (Warwickshire)
080 S Parker (Yorkshire)
081 T L Penney (Warwickshire)
082 P R Pollard (Nottinghamshire)
083 J C Pooley (Middlesex)
084 P J Prichard (Essex)
085 M R Ramprakash (Middlesex)
086 T A Radford (Middlesex)
087 J D Ratcliffe (Surrey)
088 R B Richardson (West Indians)
089 D D J Robinson (Essex)
090 P E Robinson (Leicestershire)
091 R T Robinson (Nottinghamshire)
092 * A S Rollins (Derbyshire)
093 M A Roseberry (Durham)
094 * D Sales (Northamptonshire)
095 M Saxelby (Durham)
096 N Shahid (Surrey)
097 A Singh (Warwickshire)
098 B F Smith (Leicestershire)
099 R A Smith (Hampshire)
100 N J Speak (Lancashire)
101 M P Speight (Sussex)
102 A J Stewart (Surrey)
103 A Symonds (Gloucestershire)
104 N R Taylor (Kent)
105 V P Terry (Hampshire)
106 G P Thorpe (Surrey)
107 S P Titchard (Lancashire)
108 M E Trescothick (Somerset)
109 R G Twose (Warwickshire)
110 M P Vaughan (Yorkshire)
111 * M J Walker (Kent)
112 D M Ward (Surrey)
113 T R Ward (Kent)
114 R J Warren (Northamptonshire)
115 M E Waugh (Essex)
116 A P Wells (Sussex)
117 W P C Weston (Worcestershire)
118 G W White (Hampshire)
119 J J Whitaker (Leicestershire)
120 P R Whitaker (Hampshire)
121 S C Williams (West Indians)
122 * M G N Windows (Gloucestershire)
123 A J Wright (Gloucestershire)

All-rounders (124-165)

Pick one player from this category

124 M A Aseyne (Gloucestershire)
125 I D Austin (Lancashire)
126 P Bainbridge (Durham)
127 * M A Butcher (Surrey)
128 C L Cairns (Nottinghamshire)
129 D G Cork (Derbyshire)
130 R D B Croft (Glamorgan)
131 K M Curran (Northamptonshire)
132 A Dale (Glamorgan)
133 P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)
134 * S Epstestone (Somerset)
135 K P Evans (Nottinghamshire)
136 M V Fleming (Kent)
137 O D Gibson (Glamorgan)
138 G A Hick (Worcestershire)
139 C L Hooper (West Indians)
140 R C Irani (Essex)
141 K D James (Hampshire)
142 S R Lampitt (Worcestershire)
143 C C Lewis (Nottinghamshire)
144 G W Mike (Nottinghamshire)
145 Mushtaq Ahmed (Somerset)
146 D J Nash (Middlesex)
147 A L Penberthy (Northamptonshire)
148 M Prabhakar (Durham)
149 D A Reeve (Warwickshire)
150 G D Rose (Somerset)
151 A W Smith (Surrey)
152 N M K Smith (Warwickshire)
153 P A Smith (Warwickshire)
154 J N Snape (Northamptonshire)
155 F D Stephenson (Sussex)
156 J P Stephenson (Hampshire)
157 C M Tolley (Worcestershire)
158 S D Udal (Hampshire)
159 Wasim Akram (Lancashire)
160 M Watkinson (Lancashire)
161 G Welch (Warwickshire)
162 C M Wells (Derbyshire)
163 V J Wells (Leicestershire)
164 P N Weekes (Middlesex)
165 C White (Yorkshire)

Wicketkeepers (166-185)

Pick one player from this category

166 A N Aymes (Hampshire)
167 R J Blakey (Yorkshire)
168 K R Brown (Middlesex)
169 M A Garnham (Essex)
170 W K Hegg (Lancashire)
171 G J Kersey (Surrey)
172 K M Krikken (Derbyshire)
173 S A Marsh (Kent)
174 C P Metson (Glamorgan)
175 P Moores (Sussex)
176 J R Murray (West Indians)
177 P A Nixon (Leicestershire)
178 W M Noon (Nottinghamshire)
179 K J Piper (Warwickshire)
180 S J Rhodes (Worcestershire)
181 D Ripley (Northamptonshire)
182 R C Russell (Gloucestershire)
183 N F Sargeant (Surrey)
184 C W Scott (Durham)
185 R J Turner (Somerset)

Bowlers (186-287)

Pick four players from this category

186 J A Afford (Nottinghamshire)
187 * U Afzaal (Nottinghamshire)
188 C E L Ambrose (West Indians)
189 S J W Andrew (Essex)
190 M C J Ball (Gloucestershire)
191 A A Barnett (Lancashire)
192 S R Barwick (Glamorgan)
193 S J Base (Derbyshire)
194 J D Batty (Somerset)
195 J E Benjamin (Surrey)
196 K C G Benjamin (West Indians)
197 W K M Benjamin (West Indians)
198 M P Bicknell (Surrey)
199 J Boiling (Durham)
200 * J N B Bovill (Hampshire)
201 J E Brinkley (Worcestershire)
202 M Broadhurst (Nottinghamshire)
203 S J E Brown (Durham)
204 A R Caddick (Somerset)
205 G Chapple (Lancashire)
206 J H Childs (Essex)
207 C A Connor (Hampshire)
208 N G B Cook (Northamptonshire)
209 K E Cooper (Gloucestershire)
210 * D M Cousins (Essex)
211 N G Cowans (Hampshire)
212 D M Cox (Durham)
213 R P Davis (Warwickshire)
214 M Dimond (Somerset)
215 A A Donald (Warwickshire)
216 M A Ealham (Kent)
217 J E Emburey (Middlesex)
218 M Feltham (Middlesex)
219 M G Field-Buss (Nottinghamshire)
220 D P J Flint (Hampshire)
221 M J Foster (Northamptonshire)
222 A R C Fraser (Middlesex)
223 E S H Giddins (Sussex)
224 D Gough (Yorkshire)
225 P A Griffith (Derbyshire)
226 P J Hartley (Yorkshire)
227 D W Headley (Kent)
228 E E Hemmings (Sussex)
229 J E Hindson (Nottinghamshire)
230 J G Hughes (Northamptonshire)
231 A P Igglesden (Kent)
232 R K Illingworth (Worcestershire)
233 M C Ilott (Essex)
234 P W Jarvis (Sussex)
235 R L Johnson (Middlesex)
236 * G Keedy (Lancashire)
237 N M Kendrick (Glamorgan)
238 A Kumble (Northamptonshire)
239 D R Law (Sussex)
240 R P Lefebvre (Glamorgan)
241 * J D Lewry (Sussex)
242 S Lugsden (Durham)
243 M J McCague (Kent)
244 D E Malcolm (Derbyshire)
245 N A Mallender (Northamptonshire)
246 P J Martin (Lancashire)
247 R J Maru (Hampshire)
248 D J Millns (Leicestershire)
249 A D Mullally (Leicestershire)
250 T A Munton (Warwickshire)
251 P J Newport (Worcestershire)
252 G J Parsons (Leicestershire)
253 M M Patel (Kent)
254 R M Pearson (Essex)
255 D B Pennett (Nottinghamshire)
256 R A Pick (Nottinghamshire)
257 A R K Pierson (Leicestershire)
258 A C S Pigott (Surrey)
259 V Pike (Gloucestershire)
260 N V Radford (Worcestershire)
261 A R Roberts (Northamptonshire)
262 M A Robinson (Yorkshire)
263 I D K Salisbury (Sussex)
264 K J Shine (Middlesex)
265 * C E W Silverwood (Yorkshire)
266 G C Small (Warwickshire)
267 A M Smith (Gloucestershire)
268 * V Solanki (Worcestershire)
269 J Srinath (Gloucestershire)
270 H H Streak (Hampshire)
271 J G S Sleer (Derbyshire)
272 R D Stemp (Yorkshire)
273 P M Such (Essex)
274 J P Taylor (Northamptonshire)
275 S D Thomas (Glamorgan)
276 M J Thursfield (Hampshire)
277 H R J Trump (Somerset)
278 P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)
279 A P van Troost (Somerset)
280 C A Walsh (West Indians)
281 A E Warner (Derbyshire)
282 S L Watkin (Glamorgan)
283 N F Williams (Essex)
284 R C Williams (Gloucestershire)
285 J Wood (Durham)
286 G Yates (Lancashire)
287 * R S Yeabsley (Oxford Univ and Middlesex)

Bold type overseas player
* rising star

You must include in your team one player from each of these two categories.

Overseas players

002: J C Adams (batsman)
188: C E L Ambrose (bowler)
004: K L T Arthurton (batsman)
196: K C G Benjamin (bowler)
197: W K M Benjamin (bowler)
011: M G Bevan (batsman)
128: C L Cairns (all-rounder)
018: S L Campbell (batsman)
020: S Chanderpaul (batsman)
025: W J Cronje (batsman)
026: D J Cullinan (batsman)
030: P A de Silva (batsman)
218: A A Donald (bowler)
137: O D Gibson (all-rounder)
139: C L Hooper (all-rounder)
239: A Kumble (bowler)
055: B C Lara (batsman)
072: T M Moody (batsman)
176: J R Murray (wicketkeeper)
145: Mushtaq Ahmed (all-rounder)
146: D J Nash (all-rounder)
148: M Prabhakar (all-rounder)
086: R S Richardson (batsman)
282: J Srinath (bowler)
155: F D Stephenson (all-rounder)
278: H H Streak (bowler)
280: C A Walsh (bowler)
159: Wasim Akram (all-rounder)
116: M E Waugh (batsman)
121: S C Williams (batsman)

Rising stars

187: U Afzaal (bowler)
208: J M B Bovill (bowler)
127: M A Butcher (all-rounder)
210: D M Cousins (bowler)
136: S Epstestone (all-rounder)
048: S Hutton (batsman)
228: E E Hemmings (bowler)
241: J D Lewry (bowler)
071: * S P Montgomerie (batsman)
092: A S Rollins (batsman)
094: D Sales (batsman)
265: C E W Silverwood (bowler)
268: V Solanki (bowler)
111: M J Walker (batsman)
122: M G N Windows (batsman)
287: R S Yeabsley (bowler)

1: Only applications made through The Times Fantasy First XI telephone lines or on the official entry form will be accepted and must be received by the closing date.
2. They must be received by close of business on April 27, 1995. There is no limit to the number of telephone applications any person or household may make.
3. Only players published in our The Times Fantasy First XI list will be accepted. Incorrect entries null and void with no refund. No correspondence related to players selected will be entered into. Entries lost or found to be indecipherable will be void.
4. Entries must consist of 11 players from the published list and must include one overseas player and one rising star. Of your 11, five must be batsmen, one an all-rounder, one a wicketkeeper and four bowlers. No player can be picked twice.
5. The Times independent panel of experts will provide updated records of each player's performance on a regular basis.
6. Incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be accepted. The computer's record of the entry will be considered to be the entry.
7. The telephone entry period is only open to readers over the age of 18.
8. The first prize will go to the team with the highest total score. If there is more than one entrant with the same total of points, the winner will be decided by tie-break. We will investigate complaints but our decision is final. No correspondence.
9. Promotional and explanatory copy relating to The Times Fantasy First XI form part of the terms and conditions for participation.
10. Calls charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at other times.
11. Calls should take approximately six minutes.
12. The competition is not open to employees of News International or their agents.

John Crawley, the Lancashire and England batsman, picks his Fantasy First XI team

Wasim at heart of all-round excellence

I HAVE picked five Lancashire players — including myself — in my Fantasy First XI team. This is no coincidence. Lancashire are a strong all-round team, we have several established internationals, several internationals in the making, and we are serious contenders for the Britannic Assurance County Championship this season.

Had we played throughout the past two seasons as we did towards the end of both, we might not now be still waiting for the championship title to return to Old Trafford for the first time outright since 1934.

No player was more thrilled at our late form in 1994 than Wasim Akram, whose commitments with Pakistan prevented him playing for us after the first week in July. This season we should have his services for almost every match and I am sure that he is determined for us all to do well. He is my choice as all-rounder and overseas player.

Three of my five batsmen are also from Lancashire. Michael Atherton has had an outstanding past 15 months with the bat for England and I am sure that this form will continue against West Indies, whose fast bowlers he handled so well in the Caribbean early last year, when he scored 510 runs in five Test matches. I also expect him to improve markedly his championship form, which must have been a disappointment to him in 1994.

I have chosen another colleague, Jason Gallian, partly because of his bowling, which will bring him some useful wickets, and because he is developing into a fine player. He has a solid technique and learnt on the England A winter tour of India how to play spin bowling from down the pitch.

I also back myself to have a good season. On a personal level, I was pleased with the way the tour of Australia went and am confident of starting the series against West Indies. Batting against their fast bowlers in Test matches is a different game but I believe I can do well. I have played against Ambrose, Walsh and Kenny Benjamin in county cricket and not done badly. I have never faced Winston Benjamin.

Since returning from Australia, I have embarked on a three-month fitness course with a personal trainer. Without wanting to neglect the technical side of my game, I have come to realise the importance of fitness and I want to have pride in all aspects of my performance.



My batting line-up is completed by Graham Gooch and Graham Thorpe. Gooch remains one of the best batsmen in the country and he should continue to score heavily against county attacks. Thorpe's technique is based on the methods he devised on the tour of the Caribbean last year and it has served him well since. He is well placed, therefore, to do well against West Indies this summer.

For my wicketkeeper, I have turned to Paul Nixon, of Leicestershire. He did well on the England A tour of India, can be relied on to make runs — he scored over 1,000 at first-class level last season — and is a competitive character. He keeps wicket athletically, too.

My four bowlers include the player I have chosen as my rising star. He is James Bovill, 23, the Hampshire medium-pace bowler, with whom I played for Combined Universities. He pitches the ball up and swings it away from the bat and I am sure he has a bright future in the game.

All my other bowlers have the important added advantage that they can chip in with useful runs: Mark Ilott, Darren Gough and Glen Chapple, another Lancashire team-mate. Gough and Chapple both had excellent winter tours, Gough in Australia and Chapple in India, and Ilott might have wintered equally well but for injury.

Apart from anything else, Ilott would lend my attack — which does not contain a spin bowler — some variation. If he starts the season well and wins back his England place, Ilott's left-arm bowling could present the West Indies batsmen with difficulties. It was noticeable that when West Indies lost in three days to Australia in Bridgetown, another left-arm fast-medium bowler, Brendon Julian, played a leading role.

I rate Chapple very highly as a bowler and his success in India, where he took 20 wickets at 16.85 each in the first-class matches, did not surprise me. There must be a possibility that at some time this summer he will be bowling for England in tandem with Gough, my final choice.

Gough first played for England less than a year ago, but now it is hard to imagine an England side without him if he is fit. He has had a brilliant start to his international career and he has the ability and temperament to build on that success. Everyone — myself included — will be hoping that he stays fit throughout the summer and through to the World Cup.

I have, I notice, picked a team that is strong on youth and promise. Four of my players — Chapple, Gallian, Ilott and Nixon — will be representing England A against Warwickshire, the county champions, at Edgbaston next week.

Batsmen
006 ..... M A Atherton (Lancashire)
036 ..... G A Gooch (Essex)
034 ..... J E R Gallian (Lancashire)
024 ..... J P Crawley (Lancashire)
106 ..... G P Thorpe (Surrey)

All-rounder
159 ..... Wasim Akram (Lancashire, oversees player)

Wicketkeeper
177 ..... P A Nixon (Leicestershire)

Bowlers
233 ..... M C Ilott (Essex)
224 ..... D Gough (Yorkshire)
205 ..... G Chapple (Lancashire)
200 ..... J N B Bovill (Hampshire, rising star)



Crawley plays a characteristic stroke into the leg side during the England tour of Australia in the winter

Change of season brings a season for change

This year competitors in our cricket game will be able to change their team *during* the season. We have replaced the reserve system we used last year with a new transfer period.

For seven days, from July 12 to 18, you will be able to make up to four changes to your original team without penalty. You do not have to make any changes, but if you choose to take advantage of this opportunity, your reshaped team must still conform to the general rules: you must have five batsmen, an all-rounder, a wicketkeeper and four bowlers (all as designated in the Fantasy First XI lists) and you must include only one overseas player and only one rising star.

Particular care would be needed if you chose to replace either an overseas player or a rising star. If you decided to replace, say, Mushtaq Ahmed (an all-rounder) with Brian Lara (a batsman), you would have to make another change, replacing another batsman with another all-rounder.

These restrictions apart, a transfer may be made for any reason: injury, omission from the first team or just loss of form. You must decide whether your original selection needs strengthening.

The scores of your new players from July 19 will be added to those of your original selections before July 11. There are no first-class matches scheduled to take place during the transfer period. From July 26, the weekly listing of players scores published in *The Times* will show both individual season totals *and* the scores accumulated since July 18.

Apart from the changes allowed within the transfer period, no other alterations will be allowed to a team for any reason. No substitutes for injured or suspended players can be made. If a player you have selected is omitted from his county team (and is not playing for his country, or for a touring team), he will not be scoring in Fantasy First XI.

Injury records and playing opportunities are worth bearing in mind when making your selection.

Full details of how to make transfers will be published in *The Times* as the transfer period approaches.

Form a league of your own

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THIS year, for the first time, you can compete directly with colleagues at work or friends and family at home, in our new Fantasy First XI mini-leagues. All you have to do is find three other Fantasy First XI players and agree to choose a team manager.

The team managers should submit to us the Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) which they and their friends received when they entered the game and we will provide regularly updated mini-league tables throughout the course of the season. A small fee will be charged to cover the costs of administration.

Full details of the mini-league service will be published later and application forms will be available in *The Times* after the closing date for entries to Fantasy First XI on April 27. It is important to note that you must have entered the main competition and received your PINs in order to be able to take part in the mini-leagues.

Companies and office teams will also be able to enter a special league competition by using the mini-league service. The four First XI team scores will be combined and entered in a separate competition, the Company Barclaycard League, with special prizes for the successful entries. Once again, you must have entered the main game before the closing date on April 27 in order to enter the company competition. Details about how to enter a team, and the great prizes for the winners, will be announced next week.

All first-class runs scored and wickets taken count towards *The Times* Fantasy First XI, starting today. But beware entering late. The phone lines will be busy in the last few days before the deadline.

Opportunities for players to shine will vary

A KEY factor in the Fantasy First XI game will be the number of opportunities chosen players receive during the 1995 season to play in first-class matches — the only matches that count towards the game — and thereby accumulate points.

As the accompanying table summarising the season's fixtures shows, some teams — and therefore their regular players — will have more matches than others. Middlesex, Worcestershire, Yorkshire and the West Indies touring team are the only sides guaranteed 20 first-class matches during the season, while Northamptonshire and Surrey will play a total of only 18. The difference of two matches could be the difference of hundreds of points for certain players.

With some other counties it is impossible to be certain of their precise number of first-class fixtures, as six of them have been pencilled in for tour matches against the West Indians but only three of them will only fulfil these fixtures, depending on the results of certain matches in the Benson and Hedges Cup and NatWest Trophy limited-overs competitions.

Players chosen by England for a Test match — and there are six of them against West Indies — will usually, though not always, miss one match for their counties as a result. England players will also be taken away from their counties to play in three limited-overs Texaco Trophy internationals in May.

England-qualified players may also be chosen for England A v Warwickshire in April and a TCCB XI v Australia A in August.

Players chosen for the Australia A touring team are not eligible for selection unless they are listed as an overseas player for one of the counties. In such a case, their performances in first-class matches for Australia A will count towards their points total.

Middlesex and Nottinghamshire are the only counties with fixtures against both Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

SUMMARY OF FIRST-CLASS FIXTURES

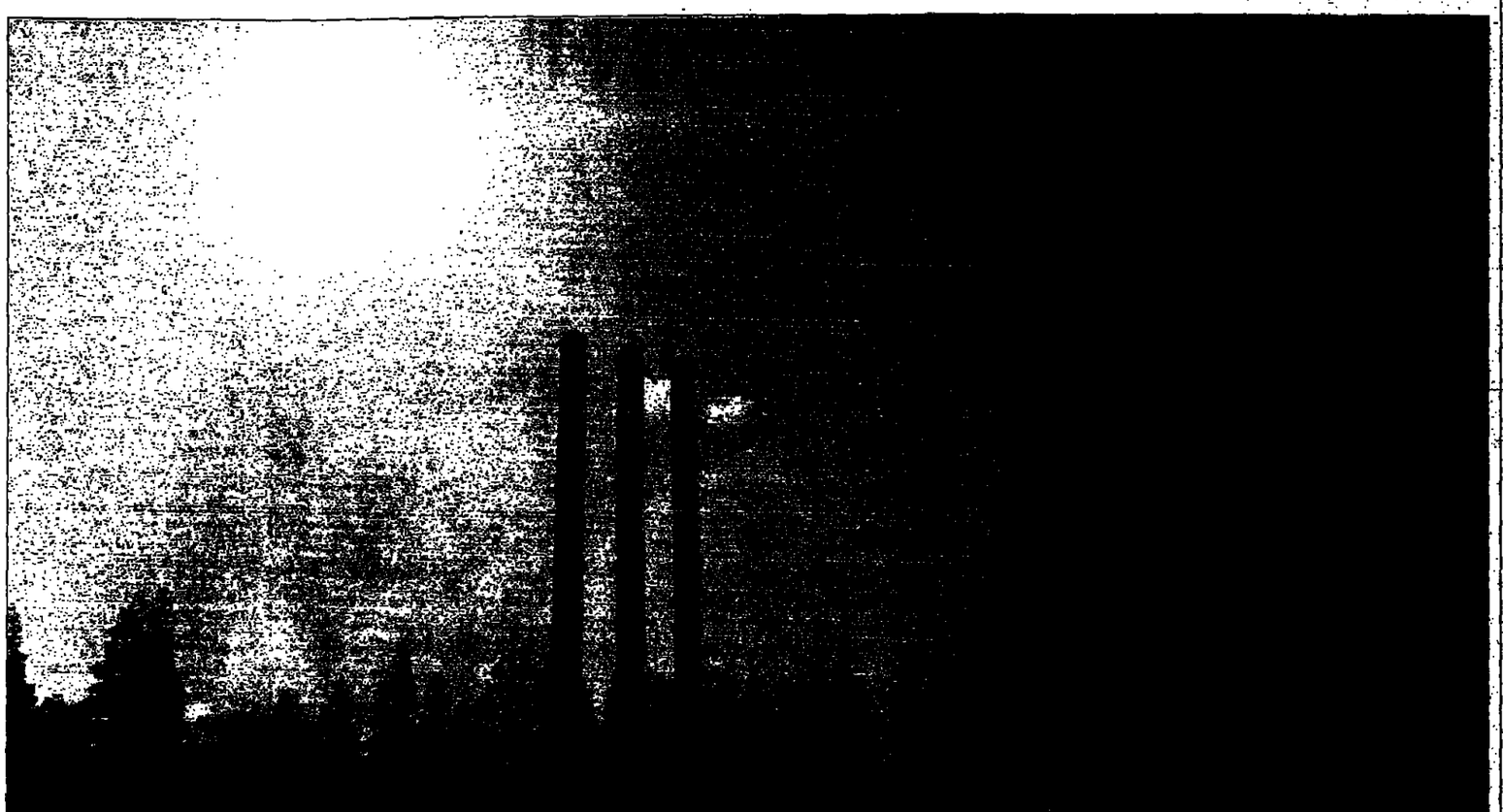
Team	Ch'ship	Univ v county	WI tour	Aus A tour	Other	Total
Cambridge Univ	0	7	0	0	1	8
Derbyshire	17	1	1†	0	0	19
Durham	17	1	1	0	0	19
England	0	0	6	0	0	6
Essex	17	1	1	0	0	19
Glamorgan	17	1	1†	1	0	20
Gloucestershire	17	1	1	0	0	19
Hampshire	17	1	1†	0	0	19
Kent	17	1	1	0	1	20
Lancashire	17	1	1†	1†	0	20
Leicestershire	17	2	1	0	0	20
Middlesex	17	0	1	0	0	18
Northants	17	0	2	0	0	19
Nottinghamshire	17	0	2	0	0	19
Oxford Univ	0	9	0	1	1	19
Somerset	17	0	0	1	0	18
Surrey	17	0	0	1	1	19
Sussex	17	0	0	1	1†	19
Warwickshire	17	1	1	0	0	20
West Indians	0	20	0	0	0	20
Worcestershire	17	1	1	0	1	20
Yorkshire	17	1	1	0	0	20

† fixture may be awarded to another county
□ The West Indians' total includes six Test matches v England

FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES IN 1994 SEASON FOR THE FANTASY FIRST XI PLAYERS

Name	M	I	Runs	Avg	O	R	W	Avg	Ct/s
C J Adams	18	32	969	33.41	30	114	3	38.00	—
J C Adams	18	32	950	35.18	340.5	720	23	31.30	—
J A Afford	18	32	1184	32.88	541.3	1376	40	34.40	—
M W Alleyne	20	37	1184	32.88	361.3	1103	41	26.90	—
C E L Ambrose	14	16	257	18.35	540	1113	77	14.45	—
S J W Andrew	8	8	37	6.16	150.3	425	9	47.22	—
G F Archer	16	26	878	33.76	—	—	—	—	—
K L T Arthurton	1	1	60	60.00	—	—	—	—	—
Asif Din	3	4	107	35.66	2	9	0	—	—
M A Atherton	18	34	1022	30.96	7	18	1	18.00	—
C W J Athey	17	27	893	35.86	251.5	682	33	20.06	36/4
I D Austin	11	16	386	25.73	—	—	—	—	—
A N Aymes	19	32	697	24.03	—	—	—	—	—
R J Bailey	18	33	1214	43.35	166.1	568	11	51.63	—
P Bainbridge	18	31	660	22.00	315.4	1082	14	77.28	—
M C J Ball	17	28	468	18.72	385.3	955	21	45.47	—
A A Barnett	6	5	14	3.50	191.4	627	10	62.70	—
K J Barnett	15	24	847	38.50	549.4	1131	36	31.41	—
S R Barwick	8	12	180	14.54	199	782	23	34.00	—
S J Base	3	6	79	79.80	77.4	269	6	49.16	—
J D Batty	16	17	148	9.25	581.2	1858	80	20.72	—
J E Benjamin	1	0	0	0.00	15	53	0	—	—
K C Benjamin	9	14	231	17.76	281	585	24	24.37	—
W K Benjamin	19	32	697	27.29	—	—	—	—	—
M R Benson	18	30	1354	52.07	1	1	0	—	—
D J Bicknell	9	11	140	15.55	319.4	977	29	33.68	65/4
M P Bicknell	20	36	1236	45.77	—	—	—	—	—
R J Blakey	6	6	75	18.75	107	237	6	39.50	—
J Boiling	16	28	605	23.30	—	—	—	—	—
T J Boon	6	9	95	8.75	119.4	421	14	30.07	—
J N B Bovill	1	1	1	1.00	1	1	0	—	—
P D Bowler	13	23	548	23.73	—	—	—	—	—
N E Briers	19	35	1216	38.00	233	779	18	43.27	—
J E Brinkley	1	1	2	2.00	11	52	1	52.00	—
M Broadhurst	10	10	16	8.00	16	47	0	—	55/1
A D Brown	17	24	1049	47.68	—	—	—	—	—
K R Brown	20	35	639	39.93	—	—	—	—	—
S J E Brown	19	25	268	17.86	578.5	2106	75	28.10	—
M A Butcher	12	19	613	36.05	206.4	670	16	41.87	—
D Byas	20	36	1287	37.05	373.1	1166	51	23.25	—
A R Caddick	12	18	219	13.68	—	—	—	—	—
J D Carr	20	27	1542	90.70	458.4	1474	55	26.80	—
G Chapple	15	21	150	15.00	464.5	1254	39	32.15	—
J H Childs	17	17	96	19.20	1	4	0	—	—
M J Church	3	5	65	13.00	574.4	1764	72	24.50	—
C A Connor	11	12	98	8.90	283.3	715	17	42.05	—
N G B Cook	15	22	215	11.31	418.2	1085	38	28.81	—
K E Cooper	12	16	84	12.00	329.1	1112	37	30.05	—
D G Cork	13	21	507	24.14	24.4	108	2	53.00	—
P A Cottey	19	33	1393	51.59	112	337	13	25.92	—
D M Cousens	4	5	94	4.80	348.3	886	26	37.92	—
N G Cowans	12	15	51	5.66	0.2	4	0	—	—
G R Cowdrey	10	16	470	31.33	74.5	345	1	345.00	—
D M Cox	3	4	32	10.66	1	4	0	—	—
J P Crawley	20	34	1570	50.64	716.3	2166	41	52.82	—
R D B Croft	19	25	600	28.06	159.5	395	13	30.38	—
W J Cronje	13	20	661	34.78	—	—	—	—	—
D J Cullinan	9	14	428	38.90	423.5	1463	31	47.19	—
K M Curran	15	23	973	48.65	5	43	0	—	—
T S Curtis	18	32	960	30.96	277	975	23	42.39	—
A Dale	18	29	711	25.39	2	9	0	—	—
J A Daley	10	18	513	32.06	341	968	31	31.80	—
R P Davis	12	9	131	18.71	30	73	2	36.50	—
I Dawson	18	30	1112	42.76	530	1621	65	24.93	—
P A DeFreitas	14	21	545	29.68	555.3	216	5	43.20	—
M Demond	3	2	34	34.00	212.2	775	25	31.00	—
A A Donald	8	6	68	22.66					
M P Dowman	3	5	111	22.20	12	45	0	—	—
M A Ealham	15	26	838	26.56	285.4	762	27	28.22	—
S C Ecclestone	13	19	334	22.26	298.3	825	22	37.50	—
J E Emburey	15	19	203	14.50	674	1514	59	25.66	—
K P Evans	16	21	514	30.23	411.5	1141	38	30.02	—
N H Fairbrother	12	22	1002	50.10	1	3	0	—	—
M A Feltham	13	16	256	17.06	382.3	1140	34	33.52	—
M G Field-Buss	8	9	72	14.40	245.1	540	12	45.00	—
M V Fleming	16	29	811	29.92	238.5	746	9	82.88	—
D P J Flint	3	2	8	8.00	49	129	1	129.00	—
A Fordham	11	20	844	44.42	—	—	—	—	—
M J Foster	4	6	159	31.80	37.5	100	3	33.33	—
A R C Fraser	14	15	80	5.71	532.5	1343	50	26.86	—
J E R Gallian	12	20	874	43.70	95	388	10	38.80	33/5
M A Garnham	18	30	542	21.68	—	—	—	—	—
M W Gatting	19	27	1671	69.62	26	97	2	48.50	—
O D Gibson	20	31	710	25.29	573.4	2169	60	36.15	—
E S H Giddins	17	22	89	4.61	450.4	1483	60	24.38	—
G A Gooch	17	29	1747	64.70	31.3	80	3	20.00	—
D Gough	13	19	355	22.18	479.2	1526	62	24.61	—
A P Grayson	19	31	1048	38.74	109.3	236	8	29.50	—
K Greenfield	1	2	21	—	16	76	0	—	—
F A Griffith	3	5	123	30.75	67.4	210	8	26.25	—
J W Hall	14	27	789	29.22	—	—	—	—	—
T H C Hancock	20	37	920	25.55	47	207	3	69.00	—
R J Harden	18	31	1061	40.80	—	—	—	—	—
P J Hartley	18	23	343	17.15	562.1	1701	61	27.88	—
A N Hayhurst	18	30	1250	52.08	87.3	265	9	29.44	—
G R Haynes	20	32	1021	34.06	108.3	319	7	45.57	—
D W Headley	9	13	134	18.75	295.3	969	36	27.47	46/3
W K Hegg	19	30	518	19.92	—	—	—	—	—
E E Hemmings	14	22	733	42.70	422	969	33	29.06	—
D L Hemp	21	38	1452	42.70	8	41	0	—	—
G A Hick	17	29	1538	54.92	173.2	482	11	42.00	—
J E Hindson	4	3	20	6.66	108	344	8	43.00	—
G D Hodgson	9	16	357	24.46	—	—	—	—	—
A J Hollioake	17	23	722	36.10	264.1	958	26	36.84	—
C L Hooper	16	28	1579	54.44	414.1	1055	29	36.37	—
J G Hughes	4	6	47	7.83	137.2	428	14	30.57	—
N Hussain	19	31	922	31.79	1	1	0	—	—
S Hutton	14	24	662	30.09	—	—	—	—	—
A P Igglesden	11	16	61	7.62	316.1	929	24	38.70	—
R K Illingworth	20	25	438	23.05	679	1498	48	30.89	—
M C Ilott	14	16	194	17.63	497.5	1391	59	23.57	—
R C Irani	18	29	985	41.95	249.4	834	28	29.78	—
K D James	18	28	877	38.13	—	—	—	—	—
S P James	17	27	347	16.52	496.2	1773	51	34.76	—
P W Jarvis	17	29	1170	43.33	—	—	—	—	—
P Johnson	11	13	205	20.50	350.4	1059	40	26.47	—
R L Johnson	5	9	141	15.66	9.3	39	0	—	—
M Keech	1	1	1	1.00	—	—	—	—	—
G Keedy	9	16	266	16.62	—	—	—	—	—
S A Kellett	7	11	112	12.44	185.3	606	9	67.33	16/2
N M Kendrick	7	11	127	14.11	—	—	—	—	—
G J Kersey	12	21	944	47.20	11.4	61	1	61.00	26/2
V V Knight	15	27	425	25.05	—	—	—	—	—
K M Krikken	15	22	306	18.23	—	—	—	—	—
J Lamb	17	28	824	29.71	512.4	1484	64	23.18	—
S R Lampitt	15	26	2068	89.82	21	112	0	—	—
B C Lara	17	27	976	40.66	5	39	0	—	—
W Larkins	16	32	1238	39.67	29	119	3	39.66	—
M N Lathwell	17	25	987	44.86	108.1	339	5	67.80	—
D A Leatherdale	12	14	240	21.81	365.2	866	25	35.84	—
R P Lefebvre	14	27	809	31.11	9	24	0	—	—
N J Lenham	12	19	881	58.73	345.2	1062	46	23.52	—
C C Lewis	16	29	751	28.88	8	82	0	—	—
J J B Lewis	4	6	14	7.00	96	315	7	45.00	—
J D Lewry	7	11	209	19.00	41.3	113	6	18.83	—
N J Llong									
G D Lloyd	16	27	684	28.50	—	—	—	—	—
J I Longley	14	25	594	25.82	—	—	—	—	—
M B Loye	15	26	914	39.73	—	—	—	—	—
S Lugsden	5	5	2	0.66	106.2	412	3	137.33	—
M A Lynch	4	7	236	39.66	10	35	0	—	—
G I Macmillan	10	17	395	28.21	94	324	7	46.28	—
D E Malcolm	18	22	89	6.84	551.3	2015	69	29.20	—
N A Mallender	8	12	270	30.00	193.3	602	16	37.62	—
S A Marsh	19	31	807	32.28	—	—	—	—	—
P J Martin	18	27	383	15.95	614.4	1580	54	29.25	—
R J Maru	9	15	207	18.81	264.1	821	15	41.40	—
M P Maynard	16	28	974	36.07	1	10	0	—	—
M J McCague	10	16	295	21.92	341.1	1084	57	19.01	—
A A Metcalfe	1	2	4	4.00	—	—	—	—	—
C P Metson	18	22	396	22.11	—	—	—	—	54/7
T C Middleton	13	23	524	26.20	—	—	—	—	—
G W Mike	17	28	365	15.86	405.5	1422	45	31.60	—
D J Millns	19	27	348	20.47	532	1901	78	25.01	—
A J Moles	11	20	863	50.76	—	—	—	—	—
R Montgomerie	19	34	1062	34.25	4	28	0	—	—
T M Moody	18	26	1160	46.40	195	572	15	38.13	—
P Moores	18	32	766	25.53	—	—	—	—	61/1
H Morris	16	31	865	30.51	—	—	—	—	—
R S M Morris	9	17	688	43.00	27.5	125	1	125.00	—
M D Moxon	17	30	1459	56.07	—	—	—	—	—
A D Mullally	14	10	114	7.60	448.1	1255	33	38.03	—
T A Munton	18	17	106	10.60	699.4	1748	81	21.58	—
Mushtaq Ahmed	9	14	168	15.27	404	1198	45	26.57	—
D J Nash	8	11	177	35.40	228.4	775	25	31.00	—
P J Newport	17	24	345	18.15	518.2	1654	53	31.20	—
M C J Nicholas	15	32	1182	45.46	4	7	0	—	60/2
P A Nixon	19	30	1046	38.74	—	—	—	—	38/5
W M Noon	18	30	617	25.70	—	—	—	—	—
T J G O'Gorman	18	28	872	33.53	0.5	8	0	—	—
D P Ostler	19	29	1161	43.00	1.1	13	0	—	—
B Parker	10	18	578	36.12	—	—	—	—	—
G J Parsons	16	25	491	25.84	462.2	1208	44	27.45	—
M M Patel	18	27	256	10.24	811.2	2068	90	22.86	—
R M Pearson	3	4	45	11.25	74.4	226	4	56.50	—
A L Penberthy	17	25	656	32.80	400.1	1374	37	37.13	—
D B Pennett	1	0	0	—	3	9	0	—	—
T L Penney	16	24	796	38.00	—	—	—	—	—
R A Pick	16	22	227	15.13	507.2	1413	54	26.16	—
A R K Pierson	15	20	334	22.26	500.4	1257	37	34.24	—
A C S Pigott	8	11	160	14.54	268.3	737	29	25.41	—
V Pike	9	12	114	14.25	199	578	20	28.90	61/5
K J Piper	17	24	454	22.70	—	—	—	—	—
P R Pollard	18	31	905	30.16	2	20	1	20.00	—
J C Pooley	3	4	77	19.25	—	—	—	—	—
P J Prichard	11	17	569	37.93	1	11	0	—	—
N V Radford	15	20	161	10.06	459.1	1408	39	36.10	—
T A Radford	1	1	4	4.00	—	—	—	—	—
M Ramprakash	18	26	1271	52.95	2	6	0	—	—
J D Ratcliffe	3	5	97	17.40	—	—	—	—	—
D A Reeve	9	10	116	12.88	144	308	10	30.80	59/8
S J Rhodes	18	27	896	56.00	—	—	—	—	—
R B Richardson	8	16	551	34.43	—	—	—	—	40/5
D Ripley	16	23	263	18.78	—	—	—	—	—
A R Roberts	9	12	261	32.62	242	870	17	51.17	—
D D J Robinson	1	1	38	38.00	—	—	—	—	—
M A Robinson	19	23	56	3.86	619	1858	45	36.84	—
P E Robinson	5	7	305	43.57	—	—	—	—	—
R T Robinson	19	31	1278	42.60	2.1	31	1	31.00	—
A S Rollins	16	25	709	28.22	4	32	0	—	—
G D Rose	16	24	548	24.90	344.1	1136	44	25.81	—
M A Roseberry	20	32	1097	38.56	1	5	0	—	58/1
R C Russell	18	34	901	34.65	474	1336	48	27.83	—
I D K Salisbury	18	25	331	17.42					
N F Sargeant	9	13	166	15.09	—	—	—	—	18/0
M Saxelby	17	32	1102	34.43	—	—	—	—	56/2
C W Scott	20	33	670	22.33	—	—	—	—	—
N Shahid	10	18	326	23.28	30	106	3	35.33	—
K J Shine	13	8	39	13.00	332.4	1156	29	39.86	—
C E Silverwood	9	15	127	10.58	248	883	27	32.70	—
G C Small	11	10	78	8.66	339	948	36	26.27	—
A M Smith	12	14	182	13.50	298.3	1004	32	31.37	—
A W Smith	14	21	624	32.75	374	1340	28	47.85	—
B F Smith	18	21	435	25.58	—	—	—	—	—
N M K Smith	12	17	363	25.92	582	1693	49	34.55	—
P A Smith	17	29	1263	43.55	182	594	18	33.00	—
R A Smith	19	34	1304	48.57	—	—	—	—	—
N J Speak	17	29	991	34.17	1	12	0	—	—
M P Speight	3	3	142	71.00	2	12	0	—	—
I G Steer	20	28	263	10.11	669.1	1493	49	30.46	—
R D Stemp	17	28	782	27.86	480.5	1345	67	20.07	—
F D Stephenson	16	27	595	20.57	332	1066	26	41.00	—
J P Stephenson	11	20	924	48.63	2	10	0	—	—
A J Stewart	14	20	276	17.25	288.4	873	25	33.57	—
H R J Trump	20	23	936	46.80	670	1757	57	30.82	—
P C R Tufnell	30	23	167	7.95	483.5	1107	39	28.38	—
R J Turner	18	27	537	24.40	353.4	1141	36	31.69	—
R G Twose	18	31	1411	54.26	190.5	544	15	36.26	—
S D Udal	17	30	884	36.30	678	1872	69	27.13	—
A P van Troost	14	18	108	9.00	345.5	1329	35	37.97	—
M P Vaughan	16	30	1066	36.75	228.3	678	14	48.42	—
M J Walker	5	7	239	34.14	—	—	—	—	—
C A Walsh	15	24	274	15.22	506.1	1535	69	17.24	—
D M Ward	18	29	921	43.85	—	—	—	—	—
T R Ward	19	33	1368	42.75	—	—	—	—	—
A E Warner	10	15	96	8.00	256	817	19	43.00	—
R J Warren	12	21	566	29.78	—	—	—	—	—
Wasim Akram	6	10	244	24.40	213.2	648	27	23.92	—
S L Watkin	18	21	92	9.20	613.4	1708	55	31.05	—
M Watkinson	18	28	899	34.19	631.1	1823	63	28.93	—
P N Weekes	18	21	648	34.10	484.4	1368	41	33.73	—
G Welch	12	15	446	37.16	267	970	22	44.09	—
A P Wells	19	35	809	29.32	14	75	1	75.00	—
C M Wells	11	20	303	16.83	153.3	469	13	36.07	—
V J Wells	17	28	871	35.29	301.5	1053	42	25.07	—
W P C Weston	17	28	818	30.29	21	85	0	—	—
J J Whitaker	18	32	956	31.93	—	—	—	—	—
P R Whitaker	2	3	134	44.66	0 1	4	0	—	—
C White	13	20	663	38.83	235.2	781	33	23.06	—
G W White	11	20	467	24.57	5	13	0	—	—
N F Williams	10	9	134	26.80	326	1066	26	41.84	—
R C Williams	10	14	171	14.25	245.4	856	26

Hectic international schedule follows low-key start to cricket campaign



John Moden, acting head groundsman at Fenner's, tests the bounce of the pitch as a new season dawns with the visit of Yorkshire. Photograph: Michael Powell

Season ambles in with gentle looseners



Alan Lee prepares for a summer of unrivalled prosperity and pleads for the money to be carefully spent

As opening ceremonies go, cricket tends towards the humdrum. Launching the season a day before the Easter weekend, with a couple of anachronistic university fixtures, is the stuff of marketing men's nightmares and yet, such is the maelstrom to come, there remains something reassuringly serene about the ritual.

It has to be said, though, that a stranger wandering into England at this time of year would be mightily confused about what actually constitutes the start of the cricket season. Is it today, when The Parks and Fenner's will have their usual slim quota of cricket junkies for the visits of Durham and Yorkshire respectively? Is it next Tuesday, when the champion county plays England A; or the following Sunday, when the Benson and Hedges Cup incongruously starts; or even April 27, the first day of the county championship?

For the majority of those who follow the game, rather than being consumed by it, the curtain goes up somewhat later — May 24, at Trent Bridge, venue for the first of three one-day Texaco Trophy matches against West Indies. International cricket, now more than ever before, dominates the English season, giving the game its profile and its prosperity. It is a trend unlikely to be reversed and a high level of interest can be guaranteed throughout this summer's itinerary.

England's players have had a rare opportunity to draw breath since returning from Australia early in February. Let us hope that it was therapeutic, because there is precious little respite for them ahead. Starting in early June, they face 11 Test matches in seven months, or a rate of rather more than one every three weeks. Then, after a three-month tour of South Africa, they have barely a fortnight's grace before embarking on a five-week dash around the subcontinent in pursuit of the World Cup.

Will Michael Atherton survive that long as captain? How will Raymond Illingworth handle the accountability of his new role in overall charge of England affairs? These will be the central fascinations of the coming months, so long as Illingworth does not succumb to an early shot of megalomania by insisting that Atherton be replaced as captain.

There has been one meeting between the pair since the tour of Australia, an inconclusive and not entirely reassuring one so far as Atherton was concerned, but it is surely inconceivable that the chairman of selectors-cum-team manager will abandon his captain now. Atherton has had a tough year and it is to the surprise of many that he has survived it. Nevertheless, he still represents England's best hope of strong, continuous leadership, perhaps to the end of the century.

To some extent, this depends on Atherton's resistance to burn-out. That there is now an absurd overload of the international schedule cannot be disputed, that it will, in time, blunt the appetites of players and spectators is inevitable, but it needs brave and enlightened men to prune when the short-term financial advice is to carry on growing. A properly structured and regulated world Test league would solve the problem, but this requires foresight and muscle that the International Cricket Council shows no sign of possessing.

One example of pragmatic profiteering evident this summer is that England will play six Tests against West Indies rather than the customary five. There is no logic to a six-Test series other than the consequent swelling of the bank balances of the counties and an opportunity has been missed to play an inaugural Test against Zimbabwe, whose performances merit it even if their revenue potential does not.

Sadly, it is increasingly true that cricket's decisions are dictated by what will make money rather than what is best for the game. How else can one explain the perpetuation of a superfluous event such as the Benson and Hedges Cup and, worse, its extension this year to incorporate once again a group league stage. County sides may now play up to 30 competitive limited-overs games in the season, a ludicrous number by any reasoning except that driven by cash-tills.

The greatest sum of money ever attracted to the English game is now being fed through the system with the start of a four-year television rights deal earning £60 million. The negotiators deserved their orgy of backslapping, but now comes the crux of the matter — the money must be spent wisely, including a substantial investment in artificial pitches for state schools and a realistic rise for the youngest of county players who might otherwise take their sporting talent to more rewarding pastures.

The downward spread of age-group representative cricket continues this summer, when even the under-11s will have a national competition. Soon, the unhelpfully confused administration of youth cricket will be more simply regulated by the English Cricket Board (ECB), which is to replace the existing Test and County Cricket Board and National Cricket Association.

What other benefits may evolve from the constitutional change remains unclear. What ought to happen is contrastingly plain. The ECB should appoint an executive group of no more than six men to run the game, empowered to make all the decisions relevant to county and Test cricket. That way, so long as wise and independent men were elected, the good of the national game would rise above the greed of parochial interests. One day, who knows, we might even have a more organised start to the season.

Obituary, page 17

Australia fight back after loss of early wickets

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN ANTIGUA

THIS splendid second Test match between West Indies and Australia still hung in the balance here yesterday afternoon. Australia led by 200 runs with five second-innings wickets in hand, with West Indies knowing that anything over 250 in the last innings will take a deal of getting.

After a wet rest day, the skies seemed to have cleared again and even by lunch the match had taken several turns. Boon and Mark Waugh, who had played so well in the last hour on Monday, were both out in the first 40 minutes, not to Ambrose or Walsh, but to Winston Benjamin.

Boon was leg-before, playing no stroke, and Waugh yorked when he looked to be cruising towards a hundred to add to the one he scored in the Test match here four years ago.

Benjamin's success came as a reward for pitching the ball up, though he was bowling to a mainly protective field with only one slip and no gully.

Before Boon departed, the game was clearly in Australia's favour. After Mark Waugh had gone, West Indies had their noses in front once again and the pressure told on Steve Waugh and Blewett. Waugh took 70 minutes to reach double figures and Blewett immediately had two or three hair-raising moments. He must have been within a whisker of being leg-before to another yorker from Winston Benjamin, and only with a deft piece of hockey did he save himself from playing on to Ambrose.

On a pitch that is still losing pace, Walsh was less hostile than earlier in the match. For some years now, there have been periodical mutterings about his action. They tend to recur when there is a bouncer barrage, as there was last Sunday, but, in all the thousands of overs he has bowled in first-class cricket, he has never been called for throwing.

If Australia are to win this series, it is important that they should keep such thoughts out of their heads and not air them, as Bobby Simpson did recently, albeit obliquely.

Yesterday, quite unexpectedly, it was not Walsh or one of West Indies' fast quartet who struck next but Hooper in the penultimate over of the morning. I doubt whether it was with any great expectations that Richardson threw the ball to Hooper, but, in his second over, he prised out Blewett. In a series already distinguished for the quality of the catching, nothing, not even the astonishing leap with which Richardson accounted for Slater at third slip on Monday, has been better than Williams's contribution now.

Blewett made room to force an off break through the off side but edged it sharply between Murray, the wicket-keeper and Williams, standing close up at slip. It was little short of miraculous how Williams, diving to his left, managed to hold the ball, two-handed and rolling over.

Seeing how Hooper was turning the ball, Richardson gave Adams the last over before lunch and he at once spun one of his little left-armers almost square from out of a bowler's footmark.

Shane Warne's eyes must have lit up at seeing this; but it was back to Walsh soon after lunch as Steve Waugh and Healy set the match back on an even keel with a dogged and invaluable partnership. Richardson, though, was still interested enough in spin to wait until the 83rd over before taking the new ball. That he gave it to Ken Benjamin rather than to Ambrose, the most feared bowler in the world a year ago, is commentary enough on the giant Antiguan's present form.

In Walsh's fourth over with the new ball, Waugh survived a leg-side chance to the wicketkeeper. It was a goal-keeper's catch, Murray getting one hand to it in the top left-hand corner of the net. By now, rain was threatening to become a factor again.

□ Neil Fairbrother, who dislocated a shoulder on the England tour of Australia, has been given medical clearance to start the new season.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 216 (C A Walsh 6 for 54).

Second Innings

*M A Taylor c Murray b Walsh	5
M J Slater c Richardson b Walsh	18
D C Boon lbw b W Benjamin	67
M E Waugh b W Benjamin	67
S R Waugh not out	39
G S Blewett c Williams b Hooper	19
†I A Healy not out	19
Extras (b 1, lb 8, nb 8)	17
Total (5 wkts)	244

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-48, 3-149, 4-162, 5-196.

BOWLING: Ambrose 19-3-42-0; Walsh 28-6-59-2; W Benjamin 19-1-62-2; K Benjamin 10-1-41-0; Arthurton 1-0-1-0; Hooper 8-3-14-1; Adams 4-0-18-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 280 (B C Lara 88).

Umpires: S Bucknor (West Indies) and D R Shepherd (England).

Match referee: Majid Khan (Pakistan).

THE 1995 FIRST-CLASS CRICKET FIXTURES

April

13-UNIVERSITY MATCHES (three days)
Fenner's: Cambridge University v Yorkshire
The Parks: Oxford University v Durham

18-TETLEY BITTER SHIELD (four days)
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v England A
UNIVERSITY MATCHES (three days)
Fenner's: Cambridge University v Lancashire
The Parks: Oxford University v Glamorgan

21-UNIVERSITY MATCH (one day)
The Parks: Combined Universities v Northamptonshire

23-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Derby: Derbyshire v Northamptonshire
Stockton: Durham v Leicestershire
Chelmsford: Essex v Glamorgan
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Combined Universities
Lord's: Middlesex v Hampshire
Leek: Minor Counties v Lancashire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire
Taunton: Somerset v Sussex
The Oval: Surrey v Ireland
Worcester: Worcestershire v Scotland

25-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Chelmsford: Essex v Middlesex
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Combined Universities
Southampton: Hampshire v Gloucestershire
Canterbury: Kent v Surrey
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Leicestershire
Leek: Minor Counties v Nottinghamshire
Glasgow (Titwood): Scotland v Derbyshire
Hove: Sussex v Ireland
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Durham
Headingley: Yorkshire v Worcestershire

27-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
*Derby: Derbyshire v Sussex
*Stockton: Durham v Hampshire
*Chelmsford: Essex v Leicestershire
*Canterbury: Kent v Northamptonshire
*Taunton: Somerset v Glamorgan
*The Oval: Surrey v Gloucestershire
*Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Middlesex
OTHER MATCH (four days)
Headingley, Yorkshire v Lancashire
UNIVERSITY MATCHES (three days)
Fenner's: Cambridge University v Nottinghamshire
The Parks: Oxford University v Worcestershire

30-OTHER MATCH (one day)
Headingley: Yorkshire v Lancashire

May

2-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Fenner's: Combined Universities v Essex
Stockton: Durham v Nottinghamshire
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Middlesex
Southampton: Hampshire v Glamorgan
Canterbury: Kent v Somerset
Leicester: Leicestershire v Minor Counties
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Worcestershire
Glasgow (Hamilton Crescent): Scotland v Yorkshire
The Oval: Surrey v Sussex
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Lancashire

4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chelmsford: Essex v Worcestershire
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Durham
Leicester: Leicestershire v Yorkshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Hampshire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire
Taunton: Somerset v Gloucestershire
Hove: Sussex v Kent
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Surrey

7-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Chelmsford: Essex v Worcestershire
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Durham
Leicester: Leicestershire v Yorkshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Hampshire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire
Taunton: Somerset v Gloucestershire
Hove: Sussex v Kent
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Surrey

9-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
The Parks: Combined Universities v Hampshire
Chelmsford: Essex v Gloucestershire
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Middlesex
Comber (North Down CC): Ireland v Kent
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Nottinghamshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Warwickshire
Jesmond: Minor Counties v Durham
Taunton: Somerset v Surrey
Worcester: Worcestershire v Derbyshire
Headingley: Yorkshire v Northamptonshire

11-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Yorkshire
Swansea: Glamorgan v Sussex
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Nottinghamshire
Canterbury: Kent v Leicestershire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Somerset
The Oval: Surrey v Durham
Worcester: Worcestershire v Middlesex
TOUR MATCH (one day)
Southampton: Hampshire v West Indians
UNIVERSITY MATCH (one day)
Fenner's: Cambridge v Oxford

16-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
Worcester: Worcestershire v West Indians
BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Yorkshire
Swansea: Glamorgan v Gloucestershire
Southampton: Hampshire v Essex
Eglinton: Ireland v Somerset
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Durham
Lord's: Middlesex v Combined Universities
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Scotland
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire
Hove: Sussex v Kent
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Minor Counties

18-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Warwickshire
Southampton: Hampshire v Kent
Leicester: Leicestershire v Derbyshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Lancashire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Surrey
Hove: Sussex v Essex
Bradford: Yorkshire v Glamorgan
UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
The Parks: Oxford University v Nottinghamshire

19-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
*Taunton: Somerset v West Indians

21-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Warwickshire
Southampton: Hampshire v Kent
Leicester: Leicestershire v Derbyshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Lancashire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Surrey
Hove: Sussex v Essex
Headingley: Yorkshire v Glamorgan

24-TEXACO TROPHY
TRENT BRIDGE: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES (first one-day international)
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Tunbridge Wells: Kent v Glamorgan

25-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chelmsford: Essex v Middlesex
Gloucester: Gloucestershire v Worcestershire
Portsmouth: Hampshire v Sussex
Liverpool: Lancashire v Nottinghamshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Durham
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Somerset
Sheffield: Yorkshire v Northamptonshire
UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
The Parks: Oxford University v Derbyshire

28-TEXACO TROPHY
THE OVAL: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES (second one-day international)

28-TEXACO TROPHY
LORD'S: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES (third one-day international)
AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Chelmsford: Essex v Middlesex
Gloucester: Gloucestershire v Worcestershire
Portsmouth: Hampshire v Sussex
Tunbridge Wells: Kent v Glamorgan
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Nottinghamshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Durham
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Somerset
Sheffield: Yorkshire v Northamptonshire

30-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Quarter-finals
TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
Leicester or Old Trafford: Leicestershire or Lancashire v West Indians (if both counties in Benson and Hedges Cup semi-finals, Warwickshire will take over)

June

1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Kent
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Hampshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Derbyshire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Essex
Taunton: Somerset v Yorkshire
Hove: Sussex v Gloucestershire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Surrey

7-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Basingstoke: Hampshire v Leicestershire

8-FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH
*HEADINGLEY: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derby: Derbyshire v Northamptonshire
Chelmsford: Essex v Durham
Canterbury: Kent v Gloucestershire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Glamorgan
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Worcestershire
The Oval: Surrey v Somerset
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Sussex

9-UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
*Fenner's: Cambridge University v Middlesex

11-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Derby: Derbyshire v Northamptonshire
Chelmsford: Essex v Durham
Basingstoke: Hampshire v Leicestershire
Canterbury: Kent v Gloucestershire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Glamorgan
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Worcestershire
The Oval: Surrey v Somerset
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Sussex

13-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
Semi-finals

15-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derby: Derbyshire v Somerset
Colwyn Bay: Glamorgan v Middlesex
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Hampshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire
Luton: Northamptonshire v Essex
Horsham: Sussex v Surrey
Worcester: Worcestershire v Lancashire
Headingley: Yorkshire v Kent
TOUR MATCH (one day)
Edinburgh: Scotland v West Indians

16-UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
*Fenner's: Cambridge University v Warwickshire

17-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
*Chester-le-Street: Durham v West Indians

18-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Derby: Derbyshire v Somerset
Colwyn Bay: Glamorgan v Middlesex
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Hampshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire
Luton: Northamptonshire v Essex
Horsham: Sussex v Surrey
Worcester: Worcestershire v Lancashire
Headingley: Yorkshire v Kent

20-UNIVERSITY MATCHES (three days)
The Parks: Oxford University v Middlesex

22-SECOND CORNHILL TEST MATCH
*LORD'S: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Derbyshire
Southampton: Hampshire v Worcestershire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Essex
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Leicestershire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Kent
Bath: Somerset v Sussex
The Oval: Surrey v Glamorgan
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Yorkshire

23-UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
*Bristol: Gloucestershire v Oxford University

25-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Derbyshire
Southampton: Hampshire v Worcestershire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Essex
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Leicestershire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Kent
Bath: Somerset v Sussex
The Oval: Surrey v Glamorgan
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Yorkshire

27-NATWEST TROPHY, first round
March: Cambridgeshire v Derbyshire
Chester (Boughton Hall): Cheshire v Essex
St Austell: Cornwall v Middlesex
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Herefordshire
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Dorset
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Suffolk
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Norfolk
Leicester: Leicestershire v Hampshire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Holland
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Scotland
Stone: Staffordshire v Kent
The Oval: Surrey v Berkshire
Hove: Sussex v Devon
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Somerset
Worcester: Worcestershire v Cumberland
Headingley: Yorkshire v Ireland

28-TOUR MATCH (three days)
The Parks: Combined Universities v West Indians

29-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derby: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Ilford: Essex v Warwickshire
Swansea: Glamorgan v Durham
Lord's: Middlesex v Surrey
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Somerset
Worcester: Worcestershire v Leicestershire
Middlesbrough: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire

July

1-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
*Hove: Sussex v West Indians
UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
*Folkestone: Kent v Cambridge University
UNDER-19 MATCH (one day)
Canterbury: England v South Africa

2-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Derby: Derbyshire v Hampshire
Ilford: Essex v Warwickshire
Swansea: Glamorgan v Durham
Lord's: Middlesex v Surrey
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Somerset
Worcester: Worcestershire v Leicestershire
Middlesbrough: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire

3-TOUR MATCH (one day)
Trowbridge: England Amateur XI v Australia A

4-UNDER-19 MATCH (one day)
Chelmsford: England v South Africa

5-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Maidstone: Kent v Derbyshire
TOUR MATCH (three days)
Taunton: Somerset v Australia A
UNIVERSITY MATCH (three days)
Lord's: Oxford v Cambridge

6-THIRD CORNHILL TEST MATCH
EDGBASTON: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Darlington: Durham v Worcestershire
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Middlesex
Southampton: Hampshire v Yorkshire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Northamptonshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Warwickshire
The Oval: Surrey v Essex
Arundel: Sussex v Nottinghamshire

8-TOUR MATCH (three days)
*Neath: Glamorgan v Australia A

9-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Darlington: Durham v Worcestershire
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Middlesex
Southampton: Hampshire v Yorkshire
Maidstone: Kent v Derbyshire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Northamptonshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Warwickshire
The Oval: Surrey v Essex
Arundel: Sussex v Nottinghamshire

12-NATWEST TROPHY, second round
Chester (Boughton Hall) or Chelmsford: Cheshire or Essex v Yorkshire or Ireland
Chester-le-Street or Brockhampton: Durham or Herefordshire v Gloucestershire or Suffolk
Old Trafford or Lakenham: Lancashire or Norfolk v Worcestershire or Cumberland
Leicester or Southampton: Leicestershire or Hampshire v Glamorgan or Dorset
Trent Bridge or Forfar (Strathmore CC): Nottinghamshire or Scotland v Northamptonshire or Holland
The Oval or Finchampstead: Surrey or Berkshire v Cornwall or Middlesex
Hove or Torquay: Sussex or Devon v Cambridgeshire or Derbyshire
Edgbaston or Taunton: Warwickshire or Somerset v Staffordshire or Kent
TOUR MATCH (one day)
Reading: Minor Counties v Australia A

13-TOUR MATCH (one day)
Reading: Minor Counties v West Indians

15-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
LORD'S: FINAL
TOUR MATCH (one day)
Dublin (Castle Avenue): Ireland v West Indians

16-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Derby: Derbyshire v Sussex
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Hampshire
Chelmsford: Essex v Leicestershire
Canterbury: Kent v Northamptonshire
Taunton: Somerset v Glamorgan
The Oval: Surrey v Gloucestershire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Middlesex
(matches involving Benson and Hedges Cup finalists will be played on July 18)

17-COSTCUTTER CUP
Harrogate (three days)
18-TOUR MATCH (one day)
Headingley: Yorkshire v Australia A

19-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
Canterbury: Kent v West Indians
TOUR MATCH (three days)
Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Australia A

20-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Southend: Essex v Somerset
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Warwickshire
Cheltenham: Gloucestershire v Lancashire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Hampshire
Guildford: Surrey v Nottinghamshire
Hove: Sussex v Leicestershire
Harrogate: Yorkshire v Durham
UNDER-19 MATCH (four days)
Taunton: England v South Africa

22-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
*Lord's: Middlesex v West Indians
TOUR MATCH (three days)
*Worcester: Worcestershire v Australia A

23-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Southend: Essex v Somerset
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Warwickshire
Cheltenham: Gloucestershire v Lancashire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Hampshire
Guildford: Surrey v Nottinghamshire
Hove: Sussex v Leicestershire
Headingley: Yorkshire v Durham

26-TOUR MATCH (one day)
Cheltenham: Gloucestershire v Australia A

27-FOURTH CORNHILL TEST MATCH
*OLD TRAFFORD: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derby: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
Cheltenham: Gloucestershire v Essex
Leicester: Leicestershire v Surrey
Lord's: Middlesex v Sussex
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire
Taunton: Somerset v Lancashire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Northamptonshire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Kent

28-TOUR MATCH (four days)
*Southampton: Hampshire v Australia A

30-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Derby: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
Cheltenham: Gloucestershire v Essex
Leicester: Leicestershire v Surrey
Lord's: Middlesex v Sussex
Cleethorpes: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire
Taunton: Somerset v Lancashire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Northamptonshire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Kent

August

1-NATWEST TROPHY
Quarter-finals
OTHER MATCH (one day)
Jesmond: England XI v Rest of the World XI

2-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
Derby or Edgbaston: Derbyshire or Warwickshire v West Indians
(if both counties in NatWest Trophy quarter-finals, Somerset will take over)
OTHER MATCH (one day)
Jesmond: England XI v Rest of the World XI

3-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Colchester: Essex v Hampshire
Canterbury: Kent v Surrey
Lytham: Lancashire v Sussex
Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Durham
Scarborough: Yorkshire v Worcestershire
TOUR MATCH (one day)
*Leicester: Leicestershire v Australia A
UNDER-19 MATCH (four days)
Worcester: England v South Africa

5-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
*Bristol: Gloucestershire v West Indians

6-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Colchester: Essex v Hampshire
Canterbury: Kent v Surrey
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Sussex
Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Durham
Scarborough: Yorkshire v Worcestershire

8-TOUR MATCH (one day)
The Oval: Surrey v Australia A

10-FIFTH CORNHILL TEST MATCH
*TRENT BRIDGE: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Middlesex
Swansea: Glamorgan v Essex
Southampton: Hampshire v Warwickshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Lancashire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Gloucestershire
Taunton: Somerset v Kent
The Oval: Surrey v Yorkshire
Kidderminster: Worcestershire v Derbyshire
UNDER-19 MATCH (four days)
*Headingley: England v South Africa

11-TOUR MATCH (four days)
*Hove: Sussex v Australia A

12-INTERNATIONAL MATCH (three days)
*Dublin (Rathmines): Ireland v Scotland

13-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Middlesex
Pontypridd: Glamorgan v Essex
Southampton: Hampshire v Warwickshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Lancashire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Gloucestershire
Taunton: Somerset v Kent
The Oval: Surrey v Yorkshire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Derbyshire

15-NATWEST TROPHY
Semi-finals

15-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
Pontypridd or Southampton: Glamorgan or Hampshire v West Indians
(if both counties in Natwest Trophy semi-finals, Leicestershire will take over)

17-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Somerset
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Derbyshire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Yorkshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Kent
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire
Eastbourne: Sussex v Worcestershire
TOUR MATCH (four days)
*Edgbaston: TCCB XI v Australia A

19-TETLEY BITTER CHALLENGE (three days)
*Chelmsford: Essex v West Indians

20-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Somerset
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Derbyshire
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Yorkshire
Lord's: Middlesex v Kent
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire
Eastbourne: Sussex v Worcestershire

23-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Abergavenny: Glamorgan v Gloucestershire

24-SIXTH CORNHILL TEST MATCH
*THE OVAL: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derby: Derbyshire v Surrey
Hartlepool: Durham v Sussex
Portsmouth: Hampshire v Lancashire
Canterbury: Kent v Essex
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire
Weston-super-Mare: Somerset v Leicestershire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Worcestershire
Headingley: Yorkshire v Middlesex

29-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Chelmsford: Essex v Derbyshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Glamorgan
Uxbridge: Middlesex v Northamptonshire
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Hampshire
The Oval: Surrey v Lancashire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Gloucestershire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Somerset
FESTIVAL MATCH (one day)
Scarborough: President's XI v West Indians

4-TETLEY BITTER FESTIVAL TROPHY
Scarborough (three days)

6-OTHER MATCH (three days)
The Oval: Surrey v New South Wales

7-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Nottinghamshire
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Durham
Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Kent
Uxbridge: Middlesex v Leicestershire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Worcestershire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Derbyshire
Scarborough: Yorkshire v Sussex

10-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Nottinghamshire
Bristol: Gloucestershire v Durham
Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
Old Trafford: Lancashire v Kent
Uxbridge: Middlesex v Leicestershire
Northampton: Northamptonshire v Worcestershire
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Derbyshire
Scarborough: Yorkshire v Sussex

14-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Derby: Derbyshire v Lancashire
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Nottinghamshire
Chelmsford: Essex v Yorkshire
Canterbury: Kent v Warwickshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Gloucestershire
Taunton: Somerset v Middlesex
The Oval: Surrey v Hampshire
Hove: Sussex v Northamptonshire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Glamorgan

17-AXA EQUITY & LAW LEAGUE
Derby: Derbyshire v Lancashire
Chester-le-Street: Durham v Nottinghamshire
Chelmsford: Essex v Yorkshire
Canterbury: Kent v Warwickshire
Leicester: Leicestershire v Gloucestershire
Taunton: Somerset v Middlesex
The Oval: Surrey v Hampshire
Hove: Sussex v Northamptonshire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Glamorgan

*match includes Sunday play

Other matches at Lord's

May 3: MCC v MCC Young Cricketers
June 7-8: MCC v Ireland
June 27: Eton v Harrow
July 18: MCC v MCC Schools
July 19: MCC Schools v NAYC
July 20: NCA YC v Combined Services
Aug 9-10: MCC v Wales
Aug 22: MCC Trophy (Minor Counties knockout) final
Aug 26: Abbot Ale club championship final
Aug 27: Alliance & Leicester Giro Village championship final
Sep 5: MCC v Minor Counties CA (centenary match)

Crucial meeting of league leaders

Leicester welcome back Richards for title showdown

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

DEAN RICHARDS, the England No 8, is due to make his comeback from injury in the week that could decide the destiny of the league titles in England and Wales. Richards, who damaged rib cartilages during the grand slam match with Scotland last month, has been picked for Leicester in the climactic Courage Clubs Championship meeting with Bath at Welford Road on on Saturday.

Richards survived a fitness test on Tuesday night, though, if there are any lingering doubts, Leicester will not hesitate to pull him out, given that the World Cup lies ahead for England in May. However, Dicoon Edwards, the young centre, who has been an ever-present in the league this season, has been dropped in favour of Richie Robinson.

Edwards, who has elected for Wales this season, is said to have lost his sparkle while Robinson played well as understudy to Stuart Potter in the league victory over Wasps last month. As one Robinson comes in another departs: Bath, the league leaders on points difference over Leicester, prefer Steve Ojomoh at open-side flanker to Andy Robinson, despite the latter's outstanding display against West Hartlepool last weekend.

Ojomoh, who has withdrawn his registration for Harlequins and now seems more settled, joins John Hall and Ben Clarke in the back row, but Jeremy Guscott is absent on business in the United States. His place at centre is taken by Mike Catt with Richard Butland remaining at stand-off half.

Should Cardiff win at Newbridge tonight, their first Heineken League championship will be all but assured. Pontypridd's desperate pursuit will be sustained if they beat Llanelli on Saturday, but, on try count, they are well adrift of Cardiff, who have solved a knotty problem in selection this week quite deftly.

They are keen to sustain their traditional Easter Saturday fixture with the Barbarians and, though ten of their World Cup training squad members play against Newbridge, it would be hard to argue that their selected XV for Saturday devalues the holiday game. Three training squad players appear, as does Nigel Walker, the wing making his late claim to a World Cup place after injury.

The notable absentee from both games is Derwyn Jones, the injured lock, but medical reports suggest that the ankle damage sustained last weekend should not keep him out for much more than a fortnight — which will be a relief both for club and country. He is replaced tonight by a former international, John Wakeford, and against the Barbarians by Howard Stone, while Stuart Roy, the other lock, is the single player to be picked in both games.

Ireland's management confirmed yesterday that their entire World Cup squad will be required in Italy on May 6 — the date of the Pilkington Cup final. The Irish play Italy at Treviso in their one World Cup warm-up game, so Simon Geoghegan, the Bath wing, and Nick Popplewell, the Wasps prop, will not be available for the cup final at Twickenham.

"I was hoping to blend in the cup final and the World Cup, but it's not to be," Popplewell said. "Country has to be more important than club, but it's disappointing. Still, I hope to have a few more seasons with Wasps and maybe we can get to the final another year."

Army charge puts airmen to flight

Army	28
RAF	26

BY DAVID HANDS

UNLESS they can discover some of the poise and precision that has earned them three outright inter-services championships in the past four years, the RAF have lost their grip on the title. A slipshod display in the sunshine at Twickenham yesterday was all they could offer against the martial ardour of an Army XV bouncing back from their tousing earlier this month by the Royal Navy to win the Willis Corroon Shield.

Jack Rowell, the England manager, will have had distinctly mixed feelings at seeing one of his World Cup squad, Rory Underwood, playing for the RAF while the Army chose not to select their two internationals, Tim Rodber and Rob Wainwright.

Not that Underwood's presence, nor that of Paul Hull, who will captain England A in Australia next month, was hugely advantageous. Underwood, playing full back, set up their second try, but he also lost possession over the line as the Army fought back from 17-10 in the second half; equally, Hull's kicking from stand-off half was inaccurate, though no worse than the indifferent tackling which let the Army in for two of their four tries.

Twice the RAF back row was sadly exposed as Pinder sent Dahinten over and Knight galloped away from a wheeling scrum for what proved, for all Worrall's goal-kicking, the decisive score.

SCORERS: Army: Tries: Deans, Johnson, Dahinten, Knight. Conversion: Abernethy. Penalty goals: Abernethy (2). RAF: Tries: Williams, Hull. Conversions: Worrall 2. Penalty goals: Worrall (4).

ARMY: Lt J R Abernethy (Royal Gurkhas); Cpl S Bentliff (Royal Signals), Capt A Deans (RE), Capt A Deans (Parachute Regt), Lt B Johnson (Royal Signals); 2nd Lt P Knowles (Royal Regt Fusiliers), Capt S Pinder (Duke of Wellington); Cpl M Stewart (Prince of Wales), Capt J Brammer (RE), Sgt J Powers (RHA), Spr R Hunter (RE), Sgt G Archer (Royal Signals), Lt D Dahinten (RHA), Capt G Knight (Duke of Wellington), Sgt C Rushworth (REME).

RAF: Flt Lt R Underwood (Pirbright); SAC G Sharp (Rudloe Manor), Sgt S Lazenby (Cosford), Cpl S Roks (Wittering), SAC S Crawford (Innsworth); Cpl P Hull (Innsworth), Sgt S Worrall (Cottesmore, Grasworth), Sgt S Worrall (Cottesmore, Grasworth), Sgt S Worrall (Cottesmore, Gras

Burundi's footballers put tensions to one side

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

BRAZIL have been installed as firm favourites to win their fourth world youth football championship title, but the tournament, which gets underway in Qatar today, has already been overshadowed by tragedy and controversy.

Nigeria, the original hosts of the tournament, refused to take part when Fifa, the international football federation, switched the venue to the Gulf state after declaring that the African country was unsafe because of doubts about health and security.

The Burundi team, who are playing in their first international finals, arrived in Qatar this week having had little time to prepare for the tournament at home. The national squad had been forced to take shelter at a university in the capital, Bujumbura, as civil war raged across their central African country.

"Players have seen their houses destroyed, but their families are all right," Badouin Ribakare, the Burundi team coach, said. His squad is made up of both Tutsis and Hutus — the two tribes locked in battle at home.

"It has been a very difficult time for all of us, but I have told the players to remember they are footballers and that whatever is happening in Burundi is not our problem."

Germany and Holland, two of the leading European nations taking part in the finals, have suffered their own problems in preparation, albeit of a radically different nature. With domestic seasons building to a climax and many issues still to be settled, several senior clubs have refused to release their young players to compete in the international tournament.

Hans-Jürgen Dorner, the Germany coach, said that his squad was missing ten regular members. "It would be a big surprise if we reached the final," he said.

His thoughts were echoed by Rinus Israel, the Dutch coach, whose side is similarly deprived of key players. Ajax, who are still chasing the European Cup, have refused to release Patrick Kluivert and Clarence Seedorf to the national youth team.

"We still have a good side here, but Kluivert and Seedorf are both good footballers and it is a weakness not having them," the coach said.

Sixteen teams, divided in to four groups, are competing in the tournament, which has been organised by the Qatar authorities in just three weeks. "What Qatar has achieved in just 20 days is a miracle," Jaõ Havelange, the president of Fifa, football's world governing body, said.

☐ French police arrested 146 supporters after fighting broke out at the French Cup semi-final match between Paris Saint-Germain and Marseilles in Paris on Tuesday. Five police officers were injured as supporters clashed outside the Parc des Princes stadium before and after the match. The most serious violence erupted beforehand, when coaches carrying some of the 3,000 Marseilles supporters were pelted with missiles. Only minior incidents were reported during the match itself, which Saint-Germain won 2-0.

☐ Sampdoria will return to Glasgow to defend the Ibrox International Challenge Trophy this summer. Rangers, Tottenham Hotspur and Steaua Bucharest, the Romanian champions, will also compete in the event, which takes place on July 29 and 30.

DRAW

Group A: Qatar, Russia, Syria, Brazil
Group B: Burundi, Spain, Chile, Japan
Group C: Holland, Argentina, Honduras, Portugal
Group D: Australia, Costa Rica, Cameroon, Germany
Today's matches: Qatar v Russia, Burundi v Spain, Argentina v Holland, Australia v Costa Rica.

Conner's revival continues against Mahaney

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

THE script written by his two rival challengers has Dennis Conner dropping out of contention to defend the America's Cup this weekend, but judging by the performance of his yacht, *Stars & Stripes*, in the opening race against Kevin Mahaney's leading entry, *Young America*, Conner has yet to read the text.

Just a week after negotiating his way into the finals, having failed to make the semi-final cut, the four-time cup winner came out and dealt the young pretenders to his throne a lesson in survival. It was a race that Conner had to win — and he did, pulling away from *Young America* at the start to finish more than a minute ahead of the odds-on favourite to defend the cup.

"Dennis is a survivor," Tom Whidden, his friend and tactician for the past 16 years, observed afterwards. "He is hardest to beat when he has his back to the wall. He always has a few tricks up his sleeve."

During the semi-finals, Conner's yacht, which came close to losing her keel during one heat, won only two out of nine races and had been defeated by *Young America* in six previous matches. Now, having been given a second chance, he and his crew have modified their boat, optimised a replacement keel and remodelled their sails to produce what could prove to be a dramatic change in their fortunes.

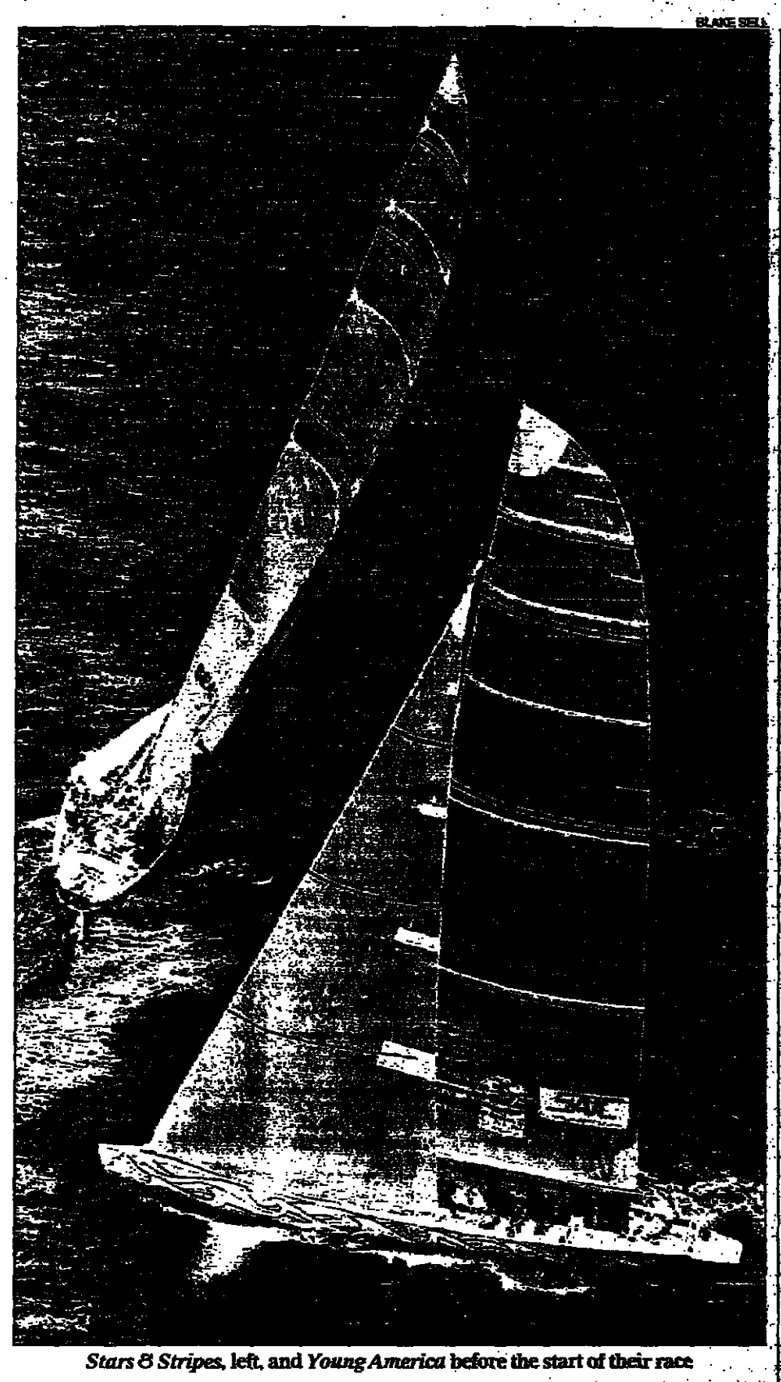
Blaming the sails set on *Young America* for his team's poor performance, Mahaney admitted: "We didn't have the fastest boat out there today, but it hasn't got to me. We are just going through a bad streak, yet are still tied for first place. We haven't managed to do our best job yet. If we do our best, we will be first at the end of the day."

Yesterday, Conner and his crew were due to take on Leslie Egnot and her women's crew on *Mighty Mary*, who also beat *Young America* on Sunday. Victory for Conner would leave the three defenders equal on points, a very different scenario to that envisaged when his two rivals agreed to allow the former cup winner to join these finals.

The disappointment within the *Young America* camp spread to the Australians after John Bertrand and his *oneAustralia* crew suffered their worst defeat yet in the opening race of the Louis Vuitton Cup finals against *Team New Zealand*. "Things could not have gone worse for the team," a terse Bertrand explained after his revamped yacht lost to the seemingly unbeatable New Zealanders by 4min 55sec.

The Australians not only conceded the start to Russell Coutts and his crew, but had to watch the New Zealanders edge further ahead on each leg.

BLAKE SELL



Stars & Stripes, left, and *Young America* before the start of their race

FINAL TRIALS

LOUIS VUITTON CUP (challenger series): *Team New Zealand (P Blake) bt* oneAustralia (J Bertrand) by 4min 55sec. Standings: 1, Team New Zealand 1pt; 2, oneAustralia 0.
CITIZEN CUP (defender series): Stars & Stripes (D Conner) bt Young America (K Mahaney) by 1'15. Standings: equal 1, Young America and Mighty Mary 2; 3, Stars & Stripes 1.

Baldwin and the shadows

The Makers of Modern Politics. *Radio 4, 8.00pm.*

Anthony Howard, of *The Times*, launches his series of political profiles with Stanley Baldwin, whose nostalgic visions of England he sums up as incorporating warm beer and long shadows on a county cricket ground. Shadows of a different order fell across Baldwin's reputation after his third and last tenancy of No 10 in 1937 when he was denounced as the apostle of appeasement. Howard's political post-mortem is the first of five, the other dissections being performed on Aneurin Bevan, Rab Butler, Anthony Crosland and Lord Joseph. He shares the scalpel with a corps of eminent politicians most of whom cut briefly into the flesh of the man dubbed variously knight "God's Englishman" and "walking balm to the nation's worries".

Capital Gains. *Radio 4, 10.00am.*

Colin Johnson's serial is probably the first on radio to be a comedy rooted exclusively in money and told entirely by letters sent and received. On both counts, it scores a bull's eye. It is bang on target in another respect: it is hugely enjoyable. Episode one ended with Julius Hutch (Peter Jones) losing all his cash when his daughter's wine-growing venture ends in disaster. In episode two, a clerical error nets him a £4million windfall, and he embarks on a life of spectacular philanthropy. Jones revels in a role tailor-made for him. His epistolary partner this morning is the banking woman whom Celestine Randall plays as a melting iceberg.

Peter Dawalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Simon Bookman 5.30 Steve Wright 8.00 Kevin Greening 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, including at 12.30, 12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, including at 5.30, 5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Soundbite: Music magazine presented by Danny Kelly 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00-4.00am Chris Parsons.

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 8.15 Pause for Thought 8.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Bi Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 How Resistant to Know Mr Lear 7.30 David Allan 9.00 Paul Jones: The Helen, Malaga Saga 9.45 The Gospel Train 10.30 The Jamboree, 12.00am Steve Madden 3.00- Alex Lester ...

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, including at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, including at 10.15 Film Review, 10.35 Elvistewe, 12.00 Get Your Reaction, 12.00 Midday with Mark Including at 12.34pm Moneybeck, with Kellie Denham 2.05 Rugcall on Five 5.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.30 sport, 7.35 The Thursday Match: football action, 9.35 SportsAmerica 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, including at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.00am Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night.

TALK RADIO

6.00am Samantha Meek, Sean Rafferty 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Ronan Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffen 10.00 Caroline 1.00am Al Kelly.

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST: 5.00am News 5.32 Europe (MW only: Off the Shelf 5.40 From Our Own Correspondent) 6.00 News 6.30 Learning (MW only: Europe) 6.45 Tribute Tunes (MW only: Europe) 7.00 News 7.15 World Today 7.30 Sport 8.00 News 8.15 Farming 8.30 Network UK 9.00 News (MW only: News in German) 9.15 Words of Faith (MW only: News in German) 9.15 Composer 9.45 Books 10.00 News 10.15 Sport 10.30 News 10.38 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf Noon News 12.30pm Beethoven 1.00 News (MW only: News in German) 1.15 Britain 1.30 Assignment 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Network UK (MW only: News in German) 5.00 News 5.15 To Believe or Not to Believe 5.45 Fourth Estate 6.00 News 6.15 Do You Know? 6.30 World Today (MW only: News in German) 6.45 Sport (MW only: News in German) 7.00 News 7.30 Assignment 8.00 News 8.05 Europe 8.30 Outlook 8.55 Words of Faith 10.00 News 10.15 Britain 10.30 Meridian 11.00 News 11.30 World Today 11.45 Health Matters Midnight News 12.10am Topical Report 12.15 Megamix 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 1.30 On the Move 1.45 Britain 2.00 News and Press 2.15 To Believe or Not to Believe 2.45 Global 3.00 News 3.30 Drama 3.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.30 Focus

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Penny Kelly 12.00 Jean Thilleria 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 5.00 Classic Brands 7.00 Travel Guide 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Maguire. 1.00am Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Chris Tarrant 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Gaynor Dene 4.00pm Nick Abbot/Tim Parry/Colin 10.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00-6.00am Peter Powell.

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Social Sciences — Assignment 309 6.55 Weather 7.00 On Air: Glissando (Soloist's Overture); Poulenc (Trois pièces pour un temps de pénitence); Mendelssohn (Andante and Variations in B flat, Op 83a); Hebburn 2; Durham City 0 Whitby Town 2; R T M Newcastle 1 Seaham Red Star 1.
OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Old Meadonians 3 Old Danes 2.
HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Carterton Town 3 Kintbury Rangers 1; Cinderford Town 0 Cirencester Town 2.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: *Bristol Manor Farm 0 Bridport 0*; Saltash Utd 1 Barnstaple Town 2; Westbury Utd 4 Elmore 2.
CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: *First division: Bootle 4* Burscough 4; Kidsgrove Athletic 2 Chadderton 2; Salford City 0 Nantwich Town 3.
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Longford 0 Dunstable United 0; Milton Keynes 2 Aylesey Town 3, Shillington 2 Welwyn G C 1; Wingate & Finchley 3 Biggleswade Tn 1
PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chipstead 1 Horley Town 0; Cobham 0 Sandhurst Town 2; Sandhurst Town 4 Ash Utd 1, Viking Sports 6 Eton Wick 1; Westfield 1 Netherne 3.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: North Ferriby 3 Ponsefract Utd 0; Pickering 4 Maltby 1
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham Town 4 Canterbury City 2; Crockenhill 0 Furness 1; Faversham Town C Deal Town 2; Thamesmead Town 3 Darenth Heathside 0; Tunbridge Wells 2 Corinthian 0; Whitstable Town 3 Folkestone Invicta 3.
JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe Town 2 Wroxham 1; Great Yarmouth Town 1 Stowmarket Town 0; Hadstead Town 1 Watton Utd 0, Haverhill Rovers 2 Fakenham Town 0; Lowestoft Town 0 Cornard Utd 0; Wisbech Town 3 Newmarket Town 0 Woodbridge Town 1 Hadleigh United 1 First division: Cambridge City Res 1 Mildenhall Town 2; Gorleston 2 Kings Lynn (Res) 0; Long Sutton Athletic 1 Diss Town 5.
FRENCH CUP: Semi-final: Paris Saint-Germain 2 Marseilles 0.
GERMAN CUP: Semi-final: Cologne 0 Bochum 1.
ITALIAN CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Juventus 2 Lazio 1 (Juventus won 3-1 on agg).
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Durham Festival: Allendale 3 Chester le Street 5, Peterborough 2 Sunderland 1, Coventry 2 East Northumberland 2; Luton 1 Darlington 6; Leeds 8 Bishop Auckland 4; Gravesham 2 Hartlepool 1 Carlisle 1 South Tyneside 3; Derwenside 4 Newcastle 1.

GOLF

LAKE OCONEE, Georgia: Andersen Consulting matchplay tournament: American section: L Roberts bt T Kite, 3 and 2; C Parry (Aus) bt M McNulty (Zim) 1 up, 2 Frost (SA) bt E Romero (Arg) 2 and 1 (Lindrick/Royal West Norfolk) 4 and 3. Fourth round: E D and D Bond (Wentworth) bt B E and M Joseph (Glamorganshire) 3 and 2; T W G and R Bess (Manningtree Heath) bt A C and J Stapleton (Gerrards Cross) 1 up; R W and J Keeling (Fyes/Dentdale) bt Dr F L and R Dyson (Royal Porthcawl/Walton Heath) 7 and 6; S R and R Waran (Pinner Hill) bt B M and B Clarke (Holtye) 5 and 4; J A and R Piggott (Littlehampton/Penwalk) bt D H R and H Holland (Sunningdale) 19th; J and D Niven (Newbury/Royal Cinque Ports) bt D C and J Dixon (Nevill/Royal Ashdown Forest) 1 hole; A J S and H Wood bt R W and N Elliott 4 and 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh 3 Washington 1; Tampa Bay 5 NY Islanders 2, Detroit 4 Dallas 1; St Louis 7 Winnipeg 5, Vancouver 5 Anaheim 0.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British Land national under-23 championships: Finals: N Wood bt R Gunn 6-4, 6-3, 6-3. Doubles: N Wood and N Lamb bt D Jones and R Gunn 6-3, 6-5.

RUGBY UNION

INTER-SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP: 28 RAF 26 (at Twickenham)
CLUB MATCHES: Cross Keys 17 Pontypool 51; Llanelli 9 Cwmtillery 10.

TENNIS

HOUSTON, Texas: Women's tournament: First round: J Kruger (SA) bt S Stafford (US) 6-3, 6-2; A Carlsson (Swe) bt B Fulco-Villella (Arg) 6-1, 6-3; T Whitinger-Jones (US) bt K Nowak (Pol) 7-5, 6-3. Second round: Kruger bt Z Garrison-Jackson (US) 6-2, 6-7, 6-2; S Hack (Ger) bt S Frankl (Ger) 6-0, 6-2; A Gerosman (US) bt A Fusai (Fr) 6-2, 7-6; S Cecchini (It) bt S Halsell (US) 6-3, 6-0; C Rubio (US) bt N Arendt (US) 6-2, 6-3; M Sánchez Lorenzo (Sp) bt D Graham (US) 6-3, 7-5. M Strandlund (Swe) bt K Po (US) 6-1, 6-2; M Babat (Ger) bt S Cacic (US) 6-1, 6-3; E DeLone (US) bt A Smashnova (Isr) 6-3, 6-2; N Louarasbashvili (Geo) bt V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) 6-3, 6-0.
TOKYO: Japan Open: Men: Second round: M Chang (US) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 6-4, 6-2; W Masur (Aus) bt L Bastiaan (Fr) 6-3, 3-6, 6-2; G Rusedski (Can) J Krosiak (Slovakia) 6-3, 7-6; S Lareau (Can) bt C Amons (Ger) 7-5, 6-1; M Chang (US) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 6-4, 6-2; L Talango (US) bt S Lagogo (Nigeria) 6-2, 6-3; W Fibak (SA) bt D Pokalow (Ukr) 6-1, 6-3; J Bjorkman (Swe) bt L Nameckik (Cz) 6-3, 6-3, J Apell (Swe) bt J Stemarink (Holl) 6-4, 6-4; M Joyce (US) bt H-J Davids (Holl) 7-5, 6-3, J Courier (US) bt A Jarryd (Swe) 4-6, 6-4, 7-6; S Draper (Aus) bt D Prinosil (Ger) 7-6, 6-4; K Miyachi (Japan) bt S Noteboom (Holl) 6-3, 7-5, K Carlsen (Den) bt J Hlasek (Switz) 6-4, 7-5, A Agassi (US) bt T Ho (US) 6-3, 6-2. Women: Second round: A Fraser (US) bt N Kijmuta (Japan) 6-1, 6-3; P Fendick (US) bt J Watanabe (US) 6-1, 7-5; K Nagatsuka (Japan) bt P Sung-Hee (S Kor) 6-1, 6-1; N Miyagi (Japan) bt Chen Li (China) 6-0, 6-2; *R Gaenda (It) bt M Wendel* Wimmeyer (US) 6-2, 6-4; Tang Min (Hk) bt M Endo (Japan) 4-6, 7-6, 6-3; Y Kamio (Japan) bt L Porun (US) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3.
BARCELONA: Men's tournament: Second round: M Larsson (Swe) bt O Martinez (Sp) 3-6, 7-5, 6-4; A Berasategui (Sp) bt J Zegas (Peru) 7-6, 6-2; T Muster (Austria) bt A Cherkasov (Russ) 6-3, 6-2; M Rios (Chile) bt B Karbacher (Ger) 6-3, 6-3; G Schaller (Austria) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 7-5, 6-1; T Carbonell (Sp) bt H Leconte (Fr) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; K Novacek (Cz) bt A Chesnokov (Russ) 6-4, 2-6, 6-2; O Gross (Ger) bt P Sampras (US) 1-6, 6-2, 6-3; C Costa (Sp) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 6-3, 6-2; J Arrese (Sp) bt G Forget (Fr) 2-6, 6-2, 7-5; T Champion (Fr) bt J Gilmard (Fr) 6-4, 6-3.
DAVIS CUP: Asia-Oceania zone: Group A (in Dubai): Syria 3 Brunei 0; Singapore 3 Kazakhstan 0; Kuwait 3 Oman 0.
TELFORD: LTA national junior championships: Boys: Second round: J Drumsand (Nottinghamshire) bt A Wakefield (Nottinghamshire) 6-2, 6-3; D Sherwood (Yorkshire) bt D Tidd (Devon) 6-4, 6-1; J Monk (Essex) bt A Wheaton (Derbyshire) 6-1, 6-2; D Cowley (Norfolk) bt S Rhodes (Surrey) 5-7, 6-3, 6-2; A Barnes (Cumbria) bt B Scotto (Sussex) 6-0, 6-1; I Bates (Hampshire) bt D Belcher (Cheshire) 6-1, 6-0; D Kernan (Durham and Cleveland) bt J Pankhurst (North of Scotland) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; A Kershaw (Durham and Cleveland) bt D Foreman (Sussex) 6-1, 6-4. Quarter-finals: Monk bt Drumsand 6-2, 6-4; Sherwood bt Cowley 6-3, 6-4; Kernan bt Barnes 5-7, 6-4, 6-0; Bates bt A Kershaw 7-5, 6-2. Girls: Second round: V Hall (Nottinghamshire) bt S Turner (Sussex) 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; H Richardson (Northamptonshire) bt S Lydon (Somerset) 6-2, 6-0; N Berryworth (Surrey) bt K Thomas (South Wales) 3-6, 6-2, 6-1; T Cross (Middlesex) bt S Reid (East of Scotland) 6-2, 6-1; A Tordoff (Kent) bt R Spencer (Dorset) 6-2, 6-2; E Lishman (Northumberland) bt R Hutchins (Surrey) 6-3, 6-2; T Blackburn (Somerset) bt C Aldridge (Hampshire) 6-2, 6-2; L Cartwright (Warwickshire) bt J Walker (Dorset) 6-1, 6-2. Quarter-finals: Lishman bt Blackburn 6-1, 6-2; Tordoff bt Cartwright 6-4, 6-4; Richardson bt Hall 6-4, 6-4, Callow bt Berryworth 6-2, 6-2.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance (maximum points 24): 24pts £123,343.75, 23 £2,410.55, 22 £118.85, 21 £37.80, 20 £4.75. Four draws: £66.35. Ten homes: £50.50. Five aways: £304.05. Grand National double-chance pool: Numbers 58, 53, 52 and 22. No client with first four horses in any order. Points used to determine next two forecast: winner 7 pts, 2nd 5, 3rd 2, 4th 1. These points scored for correct placing of horses in the official order 13pts dividend £2,276.50.
VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts £81,368.55, 23 £869.60, 22 £52.70, 21 £17.05. Ten homes: £42.75. Five aways: £1.25.
ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts £15,307.50, 23 £104.45, 22 £5.85, 21 £1.55 (stakes to one tenth of a penny). Four draws (nothing banked): £20.00. Four super homes (nothing banked): £216.80. Four-aways: £10.00. Dividends to 20p units. *Lucky numbers 21, 27, 14, 34, 22 and 9.*

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort		Weather (Spm) °C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Lech	150	330	good	heavy	slush	cloud	3	8/4
(Pistes remain in good conditions but slushy low down)								
Obergurgl	50	155	good	varied	fair	cloud	5	11/4
(Good piste skiing where visibility clear enough)								
FRANCE								
Les Arcs	115	405	fair	varied	fair	sun	1	29/3
(Typical spring conditions: pistes hard first thing)								
Avoriaz	250	355	good	spring	good	fine	4	29/3
(Good spring skiing on well-groomed pistes)								
La Plagne	210	360	fair	spring	slushy	sun	11	10/4
(Most slopes still in good shape: spring snow available)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	105	140	good	varied	good	fair	4	10/4
(Good skiing on well groomed pistes: snow holding well)								
Verbier	25	200	good	spring	slush	sun	10	10/4
(Great spring skiing on higher slopes: slushy low down)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 41

BALLOTTE
(b) A ballet step in which the feet are crossed alternately one before or behind the other, French, from the past participle of ballotter to toss or shake about: "Ballottée, literally a tossing movement. A movement in which the dancer raises the left foot behind the knee of the supporting leg, and, with a slight plié, springs upwards, crossing one foot in front of the other at the cou-de-pied, alighting on the left foot, whilst extending the right in a developpé to the front then bringing it in to the knee."
CHIPPEWA
(c) A member of an Algonquian Indian people found in the Great Lakes region, a by-form of Ojibwa. James Fenimore Cooper, The Last of the Mohicans, 1826: "The wicked Chippewas cheated my squaw."
CRUBEEN
(a) The foot of an animal, especially a (cooked) pig's foot, an adaptation of the Irish crúibín, the diminutive of crúb claw, hoof, paw. George Bernard Shaw, John Bull's Other Island, 1907: "If [sc. the pig] put in the fourth speed wid its right crubeen as if it was entered for the Gordon Bennett [car race]."
EIFEL
(b) The name of a plateau in Western Germany, used attributively to designate a subdivision of Middle Devonian in the region so named, and the rocks. "The Système eifelien of M. Dumont is formed of three distinct groups — the Eifel limestone, Eifel fossiliferous schists, and the red sandstones and conglomerates."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Rxg2 2 Bxg2 Qc6! and if 3 Bxc6 Bxc6 is mate. White tried 3 Nf4, but after 3 — exd4 4 Qd2 f3 5 Bxd4 fxg2+ he had a hopeless position.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York 112 Miami 99; Atlanta 110 Philadelphia 106; Orlando 107 Cleveland 90; Chicago 96 Indiana 89; Portland 91 San Antonio 71; Milwaukee 114 Detroit 109 (OT); Utah 100 LA Lakers 93; Phoenix 98 Seattle 90, Dallas 156 Houston 147; Sacramento 117 LA Clippers 85
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Semi-finals (at Zaragoza, Spain): Real Madrid (Sp) 62 Limoges (Fr) 49; Olympiakos (Gr) 58 Panathinaikos (Gr) 52.

BOXING

PARIS: European heavyweight championship: Zeljko Mavrovic (Cro) ko Christophe Bizot (Fr), 11th rnd.

CYCLING

HUY, Belgium: Fleche-Wallone race (235km): 1, L Jalabert (Fr) 4hr 51min Dsec; 2, M Fondriest (It) at 2sec; 3, E Berzin (Russ) 26. British placing: 37, C Boardman 4.48.

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich 0 Crystal Palace 0; Wimbledon 0 West Ham United 0
Tuesday's late results
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Ipswich 0 Queens Park Rangers 1; Tottenham 2 Manchester City 1
BINDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Bolton 0 Luton 0. Second division: Birmingham 2 Shrewsbury 0; Leyton Orient 1 Bristol Rovers 2; Wycombe 3 Wrexham 0
Third division: Gillingham 1 Colchester 3; Lincoln 2 Fulham 0; Wigan 1 Walsall 0
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Merthyr 2 Halifax 0; Stafford 1 Northwich 3
TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Semi-final replay: Celtic 3 Hibernian 1.
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Clydebank 1 Airdrie 1. Third division: Caledonian Thistle 0 Albion Rovers 2; Queens Park 1 Montrose 0.
ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Swansea 0 Cardiff 1
SEMI-PROFESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL: Holland 0 England 0.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry Town 0 Afan Lido 2; Caerarvs 0 Inter Cardiff 0; Flint Town 5 Newtown 0; Porthmadog 0 Conwy 1
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Lame 0 Portadown 1
FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Semi-final replay: Derry City 0 Bohemians 0 (aet).
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City 1 Bristol Rovers 1; Queens Park Rangers 2 Portsmouth 0; Watford 0 Tottenham 0.
PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Bradford 1 Preston 1; Burnley 4 Birmingham 1; Grimsby 1 York 0; Port Vale 1 Oldham 1; Sheffield Wed 5 Hull 1.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Crawley Town 2 Sudbury Town 0; Dorchester 1 Cheltenham 4; Gresley Rovers 0 Gravesend and Northfleet 0; Hallesowen 4 Corby Town 1; Hastings 3 Atherstone 1; Rushden and Diamonds 2 Hednesford Town 3. Southern division: Braintree Town 3 Salisbury City 0; Bury Town 1 Clevedon Town 1; Newport IOW 0 Fareham Town 1; Waterlooville 5 Wealdstone 0; Weston-Super-Mare 4 Ashford Town 1; Weymouth 4 Burnham 2. Midland division: Hinckley Town 1 Nuneaton Borough 0; King's Lynn 0 Buxton Town 4
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Matlock 3 Knowsley 3. First division: Blyth Spartans 7 Mossley 1; Farsley Celtic 0 Alfreton Town 1; Fleetwood 1 Congleton Town 2; Netherfield 1 Workesop Town 1; Warrington Town 1 Radcliffe Borough 1
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Enfield 8 Dulwich 1; Hayes 5 Carshalton 0; Hitchin 0 Harrow 0; Marlow 3 Bashoe's Stortford 1; Slough 2 Kingstonian 1; Sutton Utd 3 Hendon 1. First division: Abingdon Town 0 Wembley 3; Aldershot Town 3 Tooting and Mitcham 4; Barking 0 Boreham Wood 1; Haybridge Swifts 5 Dorking 0; Newbury Town 1 Berkhamsted Town 4; Worthing 2 Basingstoke Town 2. Second division: Chatham St Peter 4 Aveley 1; Edgware Town 5 Windsor and Eton 1; Hemel Hempstead 3 Oxford City 2; Hungerford Town 0 Metropolitan Police 1; Leatherhead 4 Saffron Walden Tn 1; Tilbury 1 Malden Vale 0. Third division: Cove 9 Leighton Town 3; Flackwell Heath 1 Canvey Island 4; Hornchurch 1 Bedford Town 2; Horsham 0 Feltham and Hounslow B 2; Kingsbury Town 0 Canterbury Town 0
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Durston FB 5 Ossett 1; Emley 1 Durham City 0; Guiseley 2 Whitley Bay 1; Harrogate Railway 1 Bridlington Town 0; Pontefract Collieries 1 Tadcaster Albion 0; Thackley 1 Eccleshill United 0; Thorne Colliery 1 Garforth Town 0; Whitby Town 2 Ryhope CA 1. Second division: Bishop Auckland 2 Billingham Synthonia 1; Consett 1 Crook Town 0; Esh Winning 1 Penrith 0; Norton & Stockton Ancients 1 Tow Law Town 0; Ryton & Crawcrook Albion 1 Annfield Plain 0; Shildon 1 Willington 0; Whickham 1 Dunston Federation Brewery 0; Whitley Bay Athletic 1 Newcastle Blue Star 0.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Barnet 1 Kidderminster Harriers 0; Bath City 1 Runcorn 0; Colwyn Bay 1 Gateshead 0; Dagenham & Redbridge 1 Woking 0; Hereford United 1 Stevenage Borough 0; Macclesfield Town 1 Scarborough 0; Rochdale 1 Telford United 0; Slough Town 1 Crewe Alexandra 0; Southport 1 Boston United 0; Wycombe Wanderers 1 Runcorn 0; Yeovil Town 1 Colwyn Bay 0.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Bamber Bridge 1 Marine 0; Bangor City 1 Ashton United 0; Barrow 1 Witton Albion 0; Colne Dynamoes 1 Lancaster City 0; Curzon Ashton 1 Gainsborough Trinity 0; Frickley Athletic 1 Emley 0; Gretna 1 Eastwood Hanley 0; Guisborough Town 1 Whitby Town 2; Horwich RMI 1 Morecambe 0; Leek Town 1 Mossley 0; Matlock Town 1 Knowsley United 0; Ossett Town 1 Worksop Town 0; Prescot Cables 1 Droylsden 0; Rossendale United 1 Hyde United 0; Runcorn 1 Northwich Victoria 0; Whitley Bay 1 Blyth Spartans 0. First division: Ashton United 1 Colne Dynamoes 0; Billingham Synthonia 1 Eastwood Hanley 0; Chorley 1 Clitheroe 0; Great Harwood Town 1 Lancaster City 0; Hall Road Rangers 1 Bamber Bridge 0; Harrogate Railway 1 Bridlington Town 0; Hyde United 1 Rossendale United 0; Marine 1 Bangor City 0; Penrith 1 Whitley Bay 0; Ryton & Crawcrook Albion 1 Gretna 0; Tow Law Town 1 Whickham 0; Whitby Town 1 Guisborough Town 0; Whitley Bay Athletic 1 Consett 0; Willington 1 Esh Winning 0; Witton Albion 1 Barrow 0.
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury United 1 Bromsgrove Rovers 0; Basingstoke Town 1 Sudbury Town 0; Bromsgrove Rovers 1 Aylesbury United 0; Chesham United 1 Hitchin Town 0; Dorking 1 Newbury Town 0; Fisher Athletic 1 Wokingham Town 0; Hitchin Town 1 Chesham United 0; Newbury Town 1 Dorking 0; Sudbury Town 1 Basingstoke Town 0; Wokingham Town 1 Fisher Athletic 0. First division: Abingdon Town 1 Berkhamsted Town 0; Aldershot Town 1 Tooting and Mitcham 0; Barking 1 Boreham Wood 0; Basingstoke Town 1 Sudbury Town 0; Berkhamsted Town 1 Abingdon Town 0; Boreham Wood 1 Barking 0; Bromsgrove Rovers 1 Aylesbury United 0; Chesham United 1 Hitchin Town 0; Dorking 1 Newbury Town 0; Fisher Athletic 1 Wokingham Town 0; Hitchin Town 1 Chesham United 0; Newbury Town 1 Dorking 0; Sudbury Town 1 Basingstoke Town 0; Wokingham Town 1 Fisher Athletic 0. First division: Abingdon Town 1 Berkhamsted Town 0; Aldershot Town 1 Tooting and Mitcham 0; Barking 1 Boreham Wood 0; Basingstoke Town 1 Sudbury Town 0; Berkhamsted Town 1 Abingdon Town 0; Boreham Wood 1 Barking 0; Bromsgrove Rovers 1 Aylesbury United 0; Chesham United 1 Hitchin Town 0; Dorking 1 Newbury Town 0; Fisher Athletic 1 Wokingham Town 0; Hitchin Town 1 Chesham United 0; Newbury Town 1 Dorking 0; Sudbury Town 1 Basingstoke Town 0; Wokingham Town 1 Fisher Athletic 0.

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day, with Jonathan Sacks 8.40 Venice for Pleasure, by J.G. Links 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: With Michael Buerk
10.00-10.30 News; Capital Gains (FM only): Sea Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Children's Radio 4: Willows Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit (LW only), by Judith Kerr. Read by Rosemary Leach.
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to crime writer P.D. James about murder and morality; and food writer Jennifer Patterson prepares a Portuguese alternative to simnel cake
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm The Archers Pro-Am Quiz: Sarah Greene tests the knowledge of three Archers actors and three avid fans
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Globe Theatre 95: Cathedral, by Nick Ward. With Daniel Main and Katrin Cartlidge
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehon
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Lynne Walker reviews *Simpatico*, a new play from Sam Shepard

4.45 Short Story: A Night Out at the Cafe Deux Magots, by Dominique Bedos. Read by Russell Hunter
5.00 PM 5.55 Shipping Forecast 5.59 Weather
6.00 SW 6.O'Clock News
6.30 Paradise Built In Space: Kay Robinson and David Dodd star in the final

A corner of a foreign field forever Yorkshire



Peter Barnard

Sean Bean, wearing one of his two expressions, takes up a rifle and squats on his haunches. Jayne Ashbourne, as pretty as a picture, takes up another, but announces: "I like to lie flat." Apart from the fact that this statement is full of meaning for the latter part of the drama — the part after the 9pm watershed — we have also established a commonality between Bean and Ashbourne: her posture and his vowels.

Bean's origins in the Geoffrey Boycott School of Speech and Drama, also known as Yorkshire, were all over Sharpe's Gold (ITV) last night, an unusual programme in that it was made for Carlton TV but does not appear to be a game show. In fact it appears to be a proper drama, the return of Major Sharpe to the screen for another series of derring-do adventures from the novels of Bernard Cornwell.

Here we are in northern Spain, early 19th century, with m'Lord Wellington about to lead the British invasion of France. But never mind that: Bean's Major Sharpe has several mini-adventures to undertake, which have to do with Spanish partisans, a lost cargo of gold and the lost father of Ellie Nugent (Ashbourne).

Within ten minutes it was evident that Sharpe, having clapped eyes on Ellie, would also prefer to lie flat, but the coitus was persistently interruptus by the needs of the plot, which contrived to discover the bandits, the treasure and the missing parent all in the same cave at the same time. Unbelievable? You may well think that, but I think — as Bean might have it — that there's nowt so queer as folk.

Take, for example, the location filming for *Sharpe's Gold*. Northern Spain? Do me a favour. Spain is a major ally, *pace* its fishermen, a paid-up member of the EU. Spain has just the sort of rugged northern scenery you need for a piece like this, complete with rugged northern Spanish extras available at rates fit to make Equity weep.

On the other hand, some of these merits also apply to . . . Ukraine. So they filmed it there. Whether it was worth filming anywhere depends on your ability to suspend belief, though I suppose it is possible that Wellington might get involved in the matter of a private who has stolen a chicken.

Or that Ellie and her mum might turn up out of a clear blue sky looking for Ellie's "dadda". Or that Ellie, walking along a remote mountain path, might spot, 20 yards away, a dumped paintbox with dadda's name on it.

The screen adaptation, by Nigel Kneale, has some good moments and some of the better dialogue comes out of the mouth of Hugh Fraser as Wellington. Bean of course is present for his simmer rather than his speech but to amend the great Rod Steiger in *No Way To Treat a Lady*, the fact that he is handsome doesn't make him a bad actor.

Bean is famous for playing opposite disrobing ladies, notably as the gritty Mellors in *Lady Chatterley* for the BBC. Is ITV more coy? We saw less of Jayne Ashbourne last night than her propensity for lying down had implied but there are two more stories to come, including one next week from a book written by Cornwell purely so that it could be adapted for television.

There is far worse drama about than this and some that is a lot better. The last in the present series of Harry (BBC 1) left me with mixed emotions, for this was well-played drama with neat plots, which none the less offered the sort of anti-advertisement for journalism to which Jonathan Aitken might gladly lend his name.

Michael Elphick is a marvellous actor whose Harry Salter, the Cockney freelance exiled to Darlington, is played with unsentimental single-mindedness, both in business and in a shambolic private life littered with smouldering volcanoes (estranged wife, overdraft) which might erupt at any moment. Few journalists will fail to recognise some part of themselves here.

The stories fair whip along, the support acting is first rate and the writing (by Sam Snape last night) has the kind of sparseness whose absence in favour of flowery waffle is too often the ruination of other dramas, particularly the string of duds found by the BBC for Sunday nights over the past couple of years. Apparently the BBC has not decided whether *Harry* will have another series, but I hope it does.

Having said all of that I will now say all this: one strand of the story last night (there are always two plots) had to do with a kidnapped child. By following the father with the ransom, Harry discovered where the child was and thus put the child's life at risk because he was spotted by the kidnapper.

Now this is unthinkable. Not even in the sleaziest pit of this magnificently uneven terrain called journalism is there an experienced reporter who would do such a thing. In this story the police were not called because Salter persuaded the family that would be disastrous; in fact it would merely have been disastrous for the plot.

Nearly all kidnap cases are successfully resolved by the police and the press is called in right at the start, told what is happening and never, not once, has a reporter breached that trust by pubishing before the victim was found.

Fictionalised events in Spain two centuries ago are one thing, but presenting this image of the modern press on television is another matter, especially in the present hysterical climate. As far as the wider public is concerned, journalism is as seen on *Harry*. But it isn't, honest (mind that comma). Oh dear — I need to lie flat.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (13077)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (31514145)

8.05 Swat Kats. Animated adventures (r) (s) (8879428)

8.25 Why Don't You . . . ? Entertaining ideas for youngsters at a loose end (s) (2419110)

10.00 News. (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1662348) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (3685928)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (8922690)

12.00 News. (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9333313) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Gloria Hunniford (s) (2883042) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (9913241G)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (78987) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (86861874)

1.50 Going for Gold. Henry Kelly presents the general knowledge quiz with European contestants (s) (96865690)

2.15 FILM: Bandido (1956) starring Robert Mitchum and Zachary Scott. Mexican Revolution drama directed by Richard Fleischer (969787)

3.50 Monty (s) (1408058) **3.55 Why Did the Chicken?** Game show (s) (8477705) **4.10 Speed Racer.** (Ceefax) (7309416) **4.35 The Ant and Dec Show.** (Ceefax) (s) (3175329)

5.00 Newsround (7744351). **5.10 The Machine Gunners.** Drama serial set on Tyneside during the Second World War (r). (Ceefax) (7413394)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (863665)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (684)

6.30 Regional news magazines (936)

7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (9941)

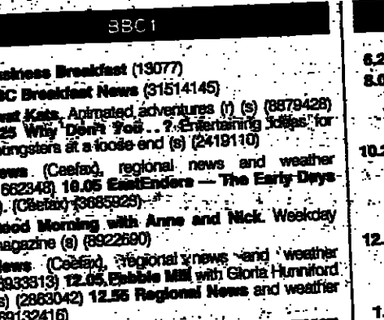
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (348)

8.00 Wildlife on One: A Monkey for all Seasons. David Attenborough narrates this film about the Japanese macaque, an unusual type of monkey. (Ceefax) (s) (9619)

8.30 Crown Prosecutor. Legal drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (5226)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5874)

9.30 Crimewatch UK presented by Nick Ross and Sue Lock. (Ceefax) (s) (642394)



Clive James pursues stardom in LA (10.15pm)

10.15 Clive James — Postcard From LA. Clive James enlists the help of Dudley Moore and Kirstie Alley in his quest to become a star (r). (Ceefax) (s) (336961)

11.05 Crimewatch UK Update. (Ceefax) (s) (771435)

11.20 Words from Jerusalem. The story of Easter in Bible readings by Sir John Gielgud (s) (409705)

11.30 A Passover for Remembrance. On the eve of the Passover the Rev Dr Isaac Levy recalls his memories of Belsen in 1945 and his own experience of liberation (s) (9005685)

11.45 FILM: Candide (1976) starring Helen Morse. An Australian drama about a barmaid with two children who finds romance with one of the pub regulars. Directed by Donald Crombie (9076841)

1.25am Weather (6602086)

BBC2

6.20 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7764042)

8.15 The Adventures of Sidney (r) (s) (5420435)

8.40 Babar (r) (s) (5029752) **9.05 Mini Dragons** (r) (6622662) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (6031049)

10.25 FILM: The Prince and the Pauper (1978) starring Mark Lester. Mark Twain's tale of an orphan and a member of the Royal Family who swap places. Directed by Richard Fleischer. (Ceefax) (s) (84418416)

12.20 Holiday Outings. Marrakech (6935771) **12.30 Working Lunch** (37981) **1.00 The Little Polar Bear** (r) (85129787) **1.05 Juniper Jungle** (r) (s) (73508706)

1.20 FILM: The Belstone Fox (1976) starring Eric Porter. A sentimental story directed by James Hill (77197394) **3.00 News** (Ceefax) and weather; **Curtain of Ice** (1410056) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (2728597)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (357)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (961)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The guest is a woman who turned her Ku Klux Klan uncle over to the authorities. (Ceefax) (s) (9929042)

5.40 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave. Sweets (r) (856400)

6.00 Quantum Leap (r). (Ceefax) (s) (865435)

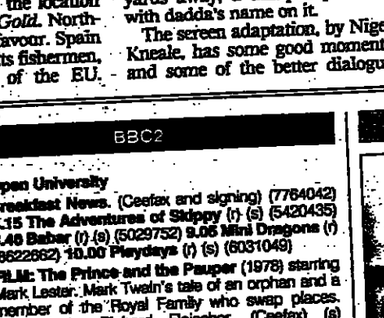
6.45 Lifeswaps (r) (397400). **Wales:** (to 8.30) Rugby Special: Newbridge v Cardiff (71784665)

7.00 Waiting for God (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8313)

7.30 First Sight: Gloves, Sweat and Tears. An 18-year-old amateur boxer meets managers, promoters and some boxers who have had neurosurgery. (690). **East:** Matter of Fact; **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **South:** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West

8.00 Russian Wonderland. A compilation. (Ceefax) (6801)

8.30 Top Gear. (Ceefax) (s) (3868)



Dolly Parton is suspected of murder (9.00pm)

9.00 FILM: Wild Texas Wind (1991) starring Dolly Parton. A drama about a country singer whose career is put in jeopardy when her manager/lover is murdered and she becomes the prime suspect. Directed by Joan Tewkesbury. (Ceefax) (s) (4145)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (941597)

11.15 Sound on Film: Pictures on the Piano. Daily life in Britain as created by director Michael Grigsby and composer Paul English (655077)

11.45 Close-Up. *Night of the Hunter* (275481)

11.55 Weather (348145) **12.00 Technology: Free Body Diagrams** (79559). Ends at **12.30am**

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CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (1009874)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (2255400) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8635428)

10.00 Step by Step with Patrick Duffy and Suzanne Somers (s) (62752)

10.30 This Morning (12321752) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6939597)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9826042) **12.55 Emmerdale** (r) (Teletext) (9907961) **1.25 Home and Away** (73395771)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz tackles real-life issues (Teletext) (s) (65404684) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (58173787) **2.50 Gardeners' Diary.** John Ravenscroft with seasonal advice (1188416)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (4251619) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4243690)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (8469787) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (2726139) **3.50 Garfield and Friends** (r) (6929597) **4.15 Samson Supersiug** (Teletext) (7220955) **4.40 Stanley's Dragon** (r) (Teletext) (s) (7389619)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (4817042)

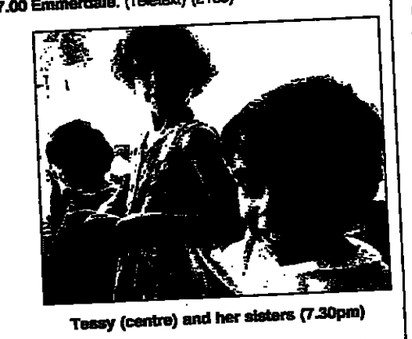
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (219435)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (796077)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (752)

6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster (Teletext) (232)

7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (2139)



Tessy (centre) and her sisters (7.30pm)

7.30 3-D Fiona Foster follows the struggle of the O'Curry family to adopt the two sisters of Tessy, the little girl they adopted from Romania (s) (416)

8.00 The Bill: Swan Song. Page and Garfield learn that, even in old age, love is never short of passion (Teletext) (4787)

8.30 NEW The Baldy Man (s) (4874)

9.00 NEW Chiller. (Teletext) (s) (9990)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (10752)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (786232)

10.40 NEW The Frost Programme. Sir David Frost is joined by Gerry Malone, the Health Minister, and Vanessa Redgrave to discuss hspital reforms. Plus, Michael Parkinson and Alan Smith on what is wrong with soccer (s) (691955)

11.40 Carlton Sport — World League of American Football: Alan Byrd introduces highlights of the big opening game of the season: London Monarchs v Frankfurt Galaxy (687787)

12.15am The Little Picture Show (r) (928004)

1.15 The Beat with Gary Crowley (r) (s) (924288)

2.15 The Album Show (r) (s) (6734646)

3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (43545337)

3.35 Sport AM featuring the second round of the world motorcycle championships (r) (2056424)

4.30 Videofashion (r) (91424)

5.00 Vanessa (r) (Teletext) (s) (73530)

5.30 ITN Morning News (67714). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Spiff and Hercules (7527139)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (99348)

9.00 Little Wizards (r) (78459)

9.30 California Dreams (6958313)

9.55 Gamesmaster (r) (s) (6039232)

10.25 Batman: Batman Displays His Knowledge (5586954)

10.55 Tintin: Explorers on the Moon (r) (5106023)

11.20 Pugwall's Summer (r) (5920058)

11.50 Terrytoons (8588771)

12.00 House to House with Maya Even (17665)

12.30pm Sesame Street (r) (97232)

1.30 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (s) (65590435)

1.55 FILM: The Goat (1921, b/w). Vintage comedy with Buster Keaton and Virginia Fox. (86784771)

2.20 FILM: Three Little Girls in Blue (1946). Three country girls go looking for rich husbands in Atlantic City. Starring June Haver, Vivian Blaine and Vera-Ellen. Directed by H. Bruce Humberstone. (Teletext) (966690)

4.00 The Great Outdoors (r) (s) (Teletext) (145)

4.30 Fifteen-to-One (s) (Teletext) (329)

5.00 Ricki Lake: I'm Trading Jobs with my Spouse. Robbie, an actor, and his wife Linda, a hairdresser, swap jobs in the studio (1087431)

5.45 Huge Adventures of Trevor a Cat. Surreal animated humour. (216348)

6.00 The Cosby Show (r). (Teletext) (394)

6.30 Saved by the Bell: The College Years. Zack gets a job in the health centre to be near Kelly. (Teletext) (874)

7.00 Channel 4 News and Weather (Teletext) (976955)

7.50 My Wagner. Rabbi Shmuel Botaech talks about the German composer. (s) (781481)

8.00 NEW Gary Lineker is Dead (s) (Teletext) (2329)

8.30 Food File. Behind the scenes in the conception, development and marketing a new product. (s) (Teletext) (8936)



Are news presenters newsworthy? (9.00pm)

9.00 NEW Naked News: Anchors (s) (Teletext) (8232)

10.00 FILM: Darkness Before Dawn (1992). Meredith Baxter is a single mother who was physically abused by her father as a child. She does not show the scars until drugs in the clinic where she works become a crutch. Directed by John Patterson. (s) (Teletext) (420145)

11.45 The Kids in the Hall. Comedy from Canada (r). (s) (Teletext) (649416)

12.15am Dispatches (r) (Teletext) (926846)

1.15 The Dubliners' Dublin. Ronnie Drew, the Dubliners' front man, offers a musical tour of the city (r) (915530)

2.15 FILM: White Mama (1980). Bette Davis is a proud and penniless widow who takes a black juvenile delinquent into her home to get benefit payments. With Ernest Harden. Directed by Jackie Cooper. Ends at **3.55** (123511)



Mute Gregor Fisher as the Baldy Man (ITV, 8.30pm)

The Baldy Man
ITV, 8.30pm

In the footsteps of the occasionally mute Eric Sykes and Benny Hill — a newcomer to the silent screen. For those among you who feel that the sometimes incomprehensible Scottish scatalogues of Rab C. Nesbitt — aka Gregor Fisher — might be better off mimed, Mr Baldy is your man. Fisher has already introduced this character in the Hamlet cigar commercials and *Naked Video* — now he's got his own occasional series, making the most of that bulky shape and specially shaven pate. Two mute sketches tonight — though Baldy and his friends do grunt and warble in recognisable Scottish cadences. In the first he tries to improve his image through a male modelling agency, in the second he sends up a pseud-ish business conference something rotten.

Gary Lineker is Dead
Channel 4, 8.00pm

"Violence, money, drugs, winning at all costs" — that's the face of modern sport. Indeed *very* modern because this imaginative, ultimately depressing essay is set in April 2019. Gary Lineker, President of United Britain, has just died and with him all vestiges of sport as we once knew it — uncomplicated, outdoorsy, and fun. When a young fan asks questions about the old days he gets a startling guide from the experts . . . tennis died out when the serves became too fast to see, rugby league merged with rugby union to the detriment of both and by the mid-1990s televised sport dominated everything and viewers wanted blood.

Chiller: The Man Who Didn't Believe In Ghosts
ITV, 9.00pm

Peter Egan, rather more aggressive than in the recent *Vanity Dies Hard*, is "the man" and it's safe to assume that this penultimate story will set out to prove him wrong. He plays a professional sceptic who writes books, 'exposing' the great ghosts of history and illustrating on television how unnerving illusions can be created with a mirror and sleight of hand. The build-up to the tricksy and unsatisfactory denouement is beautifully handled, though one does wonder why Mr Cramer (Egan) and his wife (Mel Martin) and young son should want to buy a gigantic old house when they need only a fraction of its rooms. And yes, the house — continually battered by storms and lightning — is haunted. At least it appears to be . . .

Naked News: Anchors
Channel 4, 9.00pm

What price research and objectivity when the news presenters (anchors) in America — always male and female in tandem, teeth flashing, make-up impeccable — are more interested in their own impact (as are the viewers) than in the stories they report? Veteran Walter Cronkite saw the shape of things to come when he turned celebrity overnight after reporting the death of President Kennedy. But in those days, he recalls, the earnings of newscasters were "on a par with firemen and city clerks — and that's how it should be. How can today's super-stars keep in touch?" The film follows the rise and rise of fledgeling anchor Donya Archer and her progress through the obligatory round of "news agents" (no, not that kind), "news consultants", and "appearance coaches".

Elizabeth Cowley

VARIATIONS

Crimestoppers (603313) **6.00** Maddon To-night. (7525) **6.30-7.00** Grass Roots (232) **10.30** Meridian News (786232) **10.40** Dead Run (47321964) **12.15am** The Sergeant (43786) **2.35** The Best (4052376) **3.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (43666820) **3.45** Quiz Night (37033556) **4.15** Donahue (4958630) **5.00** Firescreen (9668066)

ANGLIA
As London except: **7.55** The Young Doctors (88685329) **2.58-3.30** High Road (1188416) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (4248690) **5.15-5.40** Shortland Street (4817042) **5.25-7.00** Anglia News (104981) **10.40** Side Effects (6934395) **12.35am** The Powers That Be (9438191) **12.30** The Sergeant (43786) **2.20** The Best (4052376) **3.05** Quiz Night (37033556) **4.15** Donahue (4958630) **5.00** Firescreen (9668066)

CENTRAL
As London except: **7.55** A Question of Sport (86868329) **2.58-3.30** Take the High Road (1188416) **3.25-5.40** Shortland Street (4817042) **5.25** Central News and Weather (3950462) **5.55-7.00** Life Line (8685597) **10.40** Lara's Summer (408023) **11.10** Side Effects (3280077) **12.10am** Curtis Calls (72783958) **4.30** Jobfinder (6777707) **5.05** Aslan Eye (7154424)

GRANADA
As London except: **12.05-1.25** Shortland Street (3907981) **1.25** Home and Away (49876228) **1.50** Vanessa (65406313) **2.20** Love at First Sight (58906668) **2.50-3.30** Emmerdale (1188416) **5.15-5.40** A Country Practice (4817042) **5.25** Granada Tonight (152619) **6.00** Kick Off (544481) **7.00-7.30** Emmerdale (2139) **10.40** The Main Ingredient Cook of the Year (991955) **12.15am** The Little Picture Show (9280004) **1.15** The Best (924288) **2.15** The Album Show (6734646) **3.10** America's Top Ten (43545337) **3.35** Sport AM (2058424) **4.30** Jobfinder (91424)

HTV WEST
As London except: **2.25** Gardening Time (58091139) **2.55-3.30** Shortland Street (7341619) **5.15-5.40** 'A' Country Practice (4817042) **5.30-7.00** HTV News (252) **10.40** The Country Set (4080023) **11.10** The West This Week (158435) **11.40** The Twilight Zone (887787) **4.30am** Jobfinder (91424)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (232) **7.35-8.00** Hang Out the Washing (416) **10.40** The Infirmary (4080023) **11.10** Grass Roots (158435) **11.40** 3-D (887787)

MERIDIAN
As London, except: **8.55am-10.00** Meridian News (8835428) **12.25pm-12.35** Meridian News (8936697) **1.55** A Country Practice (9999329) - **2.55-3.30** Shortland Street (1188416) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (4253980) **5.10** Home and Away (4817042) **5.30-5.40** Three Minutes (8817042)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (1865680) **6.01** Dykemo Duck (1865680) **6.05** Ashigo (1864961) **6.10** Mrs Pepperpot (1677226) **6.30** Diplodo (95058) **7.00** Joyce (83752) **7.30** Turtles (25787) **8.00** Power Rangers (97874) **8.30** Blockbusters (49145) **9.00** Oprah Winfrey (81936) **10.00** Concentration (46810) **10.30** Card Sharks (53461). **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (94435) **12.00** Urban Peasant (40961) **12.30pm** Anything but Love (80077) **1.00** Jt. Elsewhere (782292) **2.00** Matlock (141399) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey (9410058) **3.50** DJ Kat (8079477) **3.55** Turtles (4304038) **4.30** Power Rangers (3139) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (6886) **6.00** Murphy Brown (1872) **6.30** Family Ties (8884) **7.00** Rescue (8597) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4868) **8.00** Highlander (16787) **9.00** Under Suspicion (22023) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (26110) **11.00** Late Show (1085687) **11.50** Untouchables (897077) **12.45am** Chances (4624520) **1.30** WKRP (98511) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (5558981). **9.30** News (97787) **10.30** Nightline (51023). **1.30pm** News (70890) **2.30** Memories of 1970-91 (7145) **3.30** Beyond 2000 (2690) (8874) **4.30** Talkback (8226) **7.30** O.J. Simpson Trial (8092458) **11.30** CBS News (93865) **12.30am** CBS News (218080) **1.30** Talkback (85004) **2.30** Memories of 1970-91 (53153) **3.30** Beyond 2000. (85986) **4.30** News (22646) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (16004)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (2045416) **10.00 The Switch** (1991). (89665) **12.00 Adventures of the Wilderness Family** (1975) (11042) **2.00pm Seven Days in May** (1964) (12690) **4.00 At Long Last Love** (1975) (11200139) **5.50 The Switch** (1991). As 10am (77636400) **7.20 El News Week in Review** (92232) **11.00 Golf** (80584) **12.00-12.30am** Year of the Dragon (1985) (94359819) **2.10am Rainbow Cain** (1982) (86812172) **3.40-5.00 The Arrogant** (1987) (37537191)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

2.00pm Showcase (14042) **4.00 Monkey Business** (1931). (73770416). **5.45 Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory** (1971) (8836819) **7.45 The Train** (1964) (13666892) **10.00 Midnight Beast** (1991) (16555894) **12.10-2.00am** Love with the Proper Stranger (1963) (426443)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

5.00am Call Northside 777 (1948) (34232) **8.00 Spiderman: Wolfpack/The Kirkwood Reuniting** (1973) (92961) **10.00 A River Runs Through It** (1992) (16626684) **12.10pm Battle Taxi** (1955) (544232) **2.00 George White's Scandals** (1945) (10232) **4.00 Spiderman: Wolfpack/the Kirkwood Haunting: As 4pm** (11291487) **5.50 A River Runs Through It: As 10am** (43297495) **8.00 Scent of a Woman** (1992) (57034313) **10.35 The Assassin** (1993) (24559819) **12.25am Anthony's Desire** (1993) (8631358). **4.10-6.00 Call Northside 777** (1948): As 6am (2661991)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (5316394) **7.15 WWF Challenge** (489428) **8.15** Soccer News (9224856) **8.30** Get Your Handicap Down (91226) **9.00** ATP Tennis (88706) **9.30** Aerobics (24042). **10.00** Golf — Anderson Consulting Championships (17706) **12.00** Aerobics (95042) **12.30pm** International Cricket Highlights (53349) **4.00** The Rugby Semi-Final Replay (53349) **4.00** WWF Action Zone (1684) **5.00** Soccer News (978752) **6.15** Fish Tales (779495) **8.30** Rugby Union (4400) **7.00** Transworld Sport (92985) **8.00** Boxstroom (71313) **9.00** Golf : USA (74400) **11.00** International Cricket Highlights (37416) **12.30-1.30am** Pole Position (75733)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (52685) **8.30** Dancing (85988) **9.30** Powerlifting (95771) **10.30** Rally Raid (79058) **11.00** Formula One (20145) **11.30** Motorcycling (21874) **12.00** Snooker (55400) **2.00pm** Tennis (3665) **2.30** Adventure (98357) **3.30** Eurolun (2232) **4.00** Adventure (98357) **4.30** News (5666) Mountainbike (5139) **4.30** Duathlon (56987) **5.30** Adventure (49597) **6.30** News (5666) **7.00** Combat Sports (59145) **8.00** Rally Raid (92232) **11.00** Golf (80584) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (62207)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (7269042) **8.30** Peyton Place (7266313) **9.00** As the World Turns (4278874) **10.00** Guiding Light (33880023) **11.00-12.00** Another World (347278)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (7342328) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (4627329) **1.00** Travel Guides (3476903) **1.30** Spice of Life (4546400) **2.00** Australian Panorama (42063329) **2.30** Travels in Europe (5188990) **3.00** American Vacation (1111232) **4.00** Travel Guide (8438462) **4.30** Zoo Life (1172055) **5.00** Caribbean Vacation (4117461) **5.30** Spice Of Life (7084526) **6.00** Travels in Europe (9577579) **6.30** Whicker's World — The Ultimate Package (9023874) **7.30** Australian Panorama (9689905) **8.00** Around the World in 80 Minutes (4113685) **8.30** Travel Guide (4125400) **9.00** Globetrotter (1023023) **9.30** Whicker's World — The Ultimate Package (2043329) **10.30** Caribbean Vacation (7352705) **11.00** Travels in Europe (1035888) **11.30-12.00** Cruising the Globe (7720435)

TLC

9.00am Successful Sugarcraft (6109810) **9.30** Cooking with Kurma (2033329) **10.00** Furniture to Go (2567042) **10.30** Jimmy's (3733914) **11.00** Only Human (4582232) **12.00** Private Lives (7756854) **12.30pm** Park High (2037145) **1.00** Cooking with Kurma (4504348) **1.30** Sugarcraft (2036416) **2.00** Who Cares Wins (3195110) **2.30** Frontiers (8504936) **3.00** Green Fingers (3287145) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (8509481)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (4507433) **7.30** Neighbours (4413042) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (6105485) **8.30** EastEnders (9556936) **9.00** The Bill (2580288) **9.30** Coldiz (6701481) **10.30** Angels (83439805) **11.35** Going for Gold (85094145) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (5955972) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2039503) **1.00** EastEnders (4506706) **1.30** The Bill (2038874) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (3104888) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (8506394) **3.00** Knots Landing (8046313) **4.00** Dallas (8136348) **5.00** Going for Gold (84529787) **5.25** XYZ (84435394) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (22316189) **6.30** EastEnders (8694503) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (86886655) **7.50** I Didn't Know You Cared (3930674) **8.20** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (42015093) **9.00** Minder (80666665) **10.00** The Bill (4505431) **10.30** Top of the Pops (3803394) **11.10** Carrott's Lib (63857435) **12.00** Dr Who. Terror of the Autons (6735714) **12.30am** FILM: Vault of Horror (9404608) **2.00** Shopping at Night

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (39077) **7.00** Teddy Ruxpin (11139) **7.30** Garfield (86874) **8.00** Eek the Cat (29029) **8.30** Degrassi Junior High (28394) **9.00** Super Mario Brothers (15874) **9.30** Flash Gordon (40058) **10.00** Round the Twist (82139) **10.30** Beakman's World (11058) **11.00** Gravedale High (75665) **11.30** Gigantor (76394) **12.00** He-Man (22110) **12.30pm** Bots Master (44874) **1.00** Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (33810) **1.30** Charlie Brown (43145) **2.00** Pugwall's Summer (2955) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (9767) **3.00** Casper (4462023) **3.15** Stunt Dawgs (922771) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (921042) **4.15** Bad Level 101 (6574416) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (6023)

NICKELODEON

7.00am NickAlive (5314036) **7.15** Rude Dog (382856) **7.45** Rugrats (1214365) **8.15** Doug (125771) **8.45** NickAlive! (4161936) **9.00** Nick Jr (900077) **12.00** Carmen Sandiego (93684) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (26400) **1.00** Smoggies (76481) **1.30** Galaxy High School (25771) **2.00** Alvin (8139) **2.30** Hanny's Cel (3961) **3.00** Grimmy (1874) **3.30** Carmen Sandiego (5706) **4.00** Rude Dog (1313) **4.30** Rugrats (7597) **5.00** Clarissa (3619) **5.30** NickAlive (4077) **6.00** Doug (4690) **6.30-7.00** Secret of the Stones (2042)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Horse's Mouth (8691416) **4.30** Nature Watch (8517400) **5.00** Wings (3105587) **5.00** Invention (5726884) **5.35** Beyond 2000 (5167503) **7.30** Valhalla (8698329) **8.00** Out of the Past (8077771) **9.00** Elite Fighting Forces (5180435) **10.00** Search for Adventure (6067394) **11.00** Paramedics (8137619) **11.30-12.00** The Arctic (2583226)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Stranger from Venus (2356077) **1.30pm** Smothers Brothers (2850042) **2.00** thirtysomething (2562597) **3.00** Rat Patrol (3101771) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (8609435) **4.00** FILM: Bonnie Prince Charlie (3295787) **6.00** Get Smart (8005619) **6.30** FILM: Ladies Who Do (2254665) **8.00** thirtysomething (9071597) **9.00** Madman (8049400) **9.30** FILM: Lovers and Other Strangers (4399771) **11.30-12.00** Duffy's Tavern (2550752)

UK LIVING

5.00am Agony Hour (5708077) **7.00** Makeover Magazine (2242138) **9.00** Go for It (8953058) **9.30** Kate and Allie (1182110) **10.05** The Treatment (1637400) **10.35** Susan Powter (18998619) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7482868) **11.55** The Simple Programme (74309328) **12.00** Kilroy (9415874) **12.55pm** Food and Drink (8387868) **1.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (1958077) **2.00** Agony Hour (5711690) **3.00** Makeover Magazine (7223684) **4.00** Interaction (8941868) **4.30** Crossuns (1480416) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (11509597) **5.30** Masterchef (1696226) **6.05** Susan Powter (6130890) **6.30** Brookside (3449868) **7.05** The Challenge: Anneka (5366787) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (2868481) **8.55** The Simple Programme (8372348) **9.00** FILM: Seduction. With Victoria Principal (30205077) **10.50** Sneak Scenes (5785874) **11.00** Brookside (7115348) **11.30-12.00** Intaquation UK (5716145)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (9435) **5.30** The New Adventures of Black Beauty (3503) **6.00** My Two Dads (5836) **6.30** Catchphrase (8868) **7.00** Busman's Holiday (6771) **7.30** Me and the Boys (7752) **8.00** Christy (74121) **9.00** Sirens (91145) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (30139) **10.30** Dangermouse (12787) **11.00** Lou Grant (93787) **12.00** Zorro (73337) **12.30am** Me and the Boys (45066) **1.00** Trivial Pursuit (67482) **1.30** Rhoda (77337) **2.00** Sirens (13086) **3.00** Lou Grant (83443) **4.00** Rhoda (47733) **4.30-5.00** Zorro (55827)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (13085) **5.30** The Grind (68145) **7.00** 3 From 1 (1276752) **7.15** Awake on the Wildside (8805874) **8.00** Vj Ingo (809874) **11.00** Soul (33992) **12.00** Greatest Hits (69139) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (41787) **2.00** 3 From 1 (18051435) **2.15** Afternoon Mix (9326329) **3.00** Cinematic (4464481) **3.15** Afternoon Mix (9600503) **3.30** Sports (6690) **4.00** News (8480023) **4.15** Afternoon Mix (6576874) **4.30** Dial (8481) **5.00** Dance (5665) **5.30** Music Non-stop (84905) **7.00** Greatest Hits (50048) **8.00** Most Wanted (44955) **9.30** Beavis & Butt-head (80888) **10.00** News (791481) **10.15** Cinematic (796936) **10.30** Live! (14145) **11.00** Pulse (65232) **11.30** The End? (75987) **12.30am** Grind (47424) **1.00** Soul (16375) **2.00-5.00** Night Videos (2085608)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (3475874) **9.00** Café VH-1 (7896503) **12.00** The Bridge (4535394) **1.00pm** VH-1 to 1 (3478981) **1.30** Ten of the Best (1012874) **2.30** Heart and Soul (8943313) **3.30** Into The Music (7217400) **5.00** Prime Cuts (4837706) **7.00** VH-1 For You (6048139) **8.00** VH-1 Rock (8120787) **9.00** Ten of the Best (8037023) **10.00** ...The Bridge (4281348) **11.30** This Nightnty (5220416) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (2928068) **3.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including at **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (61147145) **8.30** Aangan Terha (43022226) **9.00** Hindi Movie. Baharen Phir Bhi Aayengi (36711874) **12.00** Campus (43022042) **12.30pm** Indis Show (18221394) **1.00** Punjabi Movie. Vasaa Special-Udeaiian (43208416) **4.00** Zee Top Ten (89452077) **5.00** Saanp Seedi (9815811O) **6.30** Aangan Terha (73468413) **6.00** Swaera Bhushan (76818936) **6.30** Campus (27967426) **7.00** Song Tere Naam Se (36242874) **7.30** Ditagi (35062892) **8.00** News followed by Zee and U (96155394) **8.30** Andez (96247329) **9.00** New Pakistani Serial: Doosra Aasmaan (55927435) **10.00** Zee Horror Show (43023771) **10.30** Video Junction (43112619) **11.00** Haveli

TENNIS 41
PETCHEY OVERLOOKED FOR BRITAIN'S DAVIS CUP CHALLENGE

SPORT

YACHTING 42
CONNER'S SURVIVAL TECHNIQUE KEEPS CUP HOPES AFLOAT

THURSDAY APRIL 13 1995

Coulthard and Schumacher to lose appeal


Coulthard: finished first

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

A THREE-MAN tribunal of the FIA, the international governing body of motor racing, which is meeting in Paris today, is expected to uphold the decision that cost Michael Schumacher and David Coulthard first and second places in the opening race of the new grand prix season. However, the FIA has already dismissed suggestions that the teams were deliberately cheating when differences were discovered in fuel samples taken from Schumacher's Williams-Benetton and Coulthard's Williams-Renault before and after the Brazilian Grand Prix earlier this month.

An FIA official said yesterday that the incident was the result of a technical fault, either through error or negligence. "It is not cheating. If it had been, the racing stables would have been excluded from the world championship," he said.

"Assuming that FIA's equipment functioned perfectly, the most probable explanation is that an incorrect batch of fuel was sent to Brazil by mistake," he added.

Yet the tribunal is unlikely to reinstate the two drivers. An appeal tribunal has never before overturned an FIA decision.

The incident sparked controversy soon after Schumacher and Coulthard crossed the finishing line at the Interlagos circuit, near São Paulo.

All competing teams had supplied FIA with samples of their fuel before the season began. The tests in Brazil were to compare the chemical "fingerprint" of those approved samples with the actual petrol being used on the track.

The trouble started when differences were detected in the Williams-Benetton and Williams-Renault samples during practice and after the race, although those taken from the McLarens and Ferraris matched perfectly. The two Renault-engined cars are supplied by the French company, Elf, while McLaren uses Mobil and Ferraris are powered by Agip.

In accordance with FIA rules, stewards at Interlagos promptly disqualified the two drivers, handing victory instead to Gerhard Berger, who drove a Ferrari to finish third in the actual race. The Benetton and Williams teams, who were also fined $30,000 (£20,000) each, both appealed against the decisions, while Elf challenged the way in which the tests were carried out and maintained that its fuel did in fact conform to the FIA rules.

In joint statements issued yesterday, the teams said they "never doubted that the FIA acted totally in the best interests of the sport, even though the infringement was of a minimal nature".

But the governing body remained unimpressed. "In my opinion, what they are trying to do is confuse the matter," Francesco Langanesi, a FIA spokesman, said.

Nor have the teams the support of Berger, the main beneficiary of the disqualification. "I do not feel sorry for Schumacher or Coulthard because cheating is cheating," he said after the race.

"Violation of the rules on fuel is no small matter. You can get 20 to 30 more horsepower that way alone. I noticed relatively early on in the race that something wasn't right."

The controversy may prove to be the last straw for Schumacher, the world champion, who was disqualified from two races and suspended for two races last season. Like Nigel Mansell, the former British world champion, before him, he is considering departing the Formula One scene for IndyCar racing in the United States.

"There are limits to everything and, yes, I have had thoughts about going to IndyCar, Schumacher, 26, said. "I'm getting to the point where I'm finding all these accusations a bit too much to take."

Schumacher finished third behind the British driver, Damon Hill, in a Williams-Renault, and Jean Alesi, of France, in a Ferrari, at the second race of the season, the Argentine Grand Prix, last Sunday. Coulthard was forced to retire early with mechanical problems.

The race, which had to be restarted after multiple crashes on the opening lap, was finally completed without further incident, much to FIA's relief. After a 1994 season which had seen the deaths of Ayrton Senna and Roland Ratzenberger, a serious injury to Karl Wendlinger and a protracted battle over the governing body's plans to make the sport safer and less dependent on technology, the last thing that FIA wanted was a legal battle over the winner of its first race in 1995.

Striker to stay with Tottenham

Klinsmann plays down talk of move to Bayern

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

JÜRGEN KLINSMANN, the Germany and Tottenham Hotspur forward, does not need to resort to pseudo-intellectual babble to reveal his frame of mind. His multilingual mastery, allied to a cool character and pleasant persona, allows little room for misunderstanding or mischievous speculation.

Thus, as the world awaits the next pretentious utterings from Eric Cantona, Klinsmann was happy to confirm his future at White Hart Lane for at least another season. He told Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, and Alan Sugar, the chairman, that he will not be breaking the two-year contract he signed on his arrival from AS Monaco last summer.

"I have heard a lot of talk about me going elsewhere and there have been a lot of nice things said about me," Klinsmann, 30, said. "I take it as a compliment, but all my concentration is with Tottenham at the moment. I feel very comfortable with Spurs and the team spirit is very positive here; it makes you feel like one of the lads.

"I am not aware of time running out for me but I am more concentrated because I know there are just a few years left. I don't have ten years in front of me any more and I want to make the most of it."

The options for Klinsmann, as befit a player of his semi-nomadic nature and global status, were limitless. Tottenham's failure to reach the FA Cup final, after their dismal 4-1 defeat against Everton on Sunday, and the uncertainty surrounding their qualification for the Uefa Cup next season appeared to have enhanced the possibility of him moving on.

His solitary similarity with Cantona is that he thrives on the big stage, on the big occasion, and playing in Europe represents the ultimate lure at club level. Take it away from a player who has won World Cup and Uefa Cup winners' medals, in a distinguished career, and the incentive to continue at the same club can disappear. Loyalty, in football, is often measured in trophies and titles.

Klinsmann has also had to reject the advances, shrewdly made public, of Bayern Munich and Franz Beckenbauer, their president. "He knows that we want him," Beckenbauer said. "If he wants to come here, he is cordially welcome." It is highly unlikely that the former Germany coach sought the approval of Francis and Sugar before enlightening north London with his thoughts.

With 26 goals this season, and plaudits aplenty, Klinsmann has only rarely experienced the seamier side of life since forsaking an idyllic existence in Monaco. On Sunday, he was allegedly assaulted by an Everton supporter as he left the pitch at the end of the semi-final defeat at Elland Road.

Francis said: "I didn't see what happened as I was already on my way to the dressing-room, but a letter is being drafted over the incident. It appears that Jürgen was hit and this sort of thing cannot be good for the game." A Football Association spokesman said: "We will investigate if we receive an official complaint."

Klinsmann, as usual, took it in his stride, brushed it aside and concentrated on propelling Tottenham towards their European target. He scored the 84th-minute winner — a classic far-post header — in the 2-1 victory over Manchester City in the FA Carling Premiership on Tuesday and then reaffirmed his desire to stay at White Hart Lane. Thankfully, without a mention of trawlers, seagulls or sardines.

☐ Celtic are one game away from ending a run of six years without a trophy after their 3-1 victory over Hibernian in the Scottish Cup semi-final replay at Ibrox on Tuesday. Goals from Willie Falconer, John Collins and Phil O'Donnell earned Celtic a meeting with Airdrie in the final at Hampden Park on May 27. Keith Wright replied.

Brazil favourites 42
Today's fixtures 41

GUSTAU NACARINO


Pete Sampras cannot hide his frustration after losing a point to Oliver Gross in the Barcelona tennis tournament yesterday. The unseeded Gross, from Germany, pulled off an upset by defeating the world No 2, from the United States, 1-6, 6-2, 6-3. Gross, who is ranked No 84 in the world, won the clay-court match against the tournament favourite in 1hr 43min.

"It means a lot to me beating Sampras," Gross, 21, said. "It's my best win. He made easy mistakes and gave me a lot of points."

The match was Sampras's first in a tournament he had hoped would prepare him for the French Open, the only grand slam event he has not won. He had also hoped it would help to return him to the world No 1 ranking, which he held for 82 weeks until his compatriot, Andre Agassi, overtook him on Monday.

"I came to win this tournament," Sampras, 23, said. "Today I didn't play the way I should have. After a very good start, I found myself really pressing in the second set."

Broncos invite clubs to share in grand vision

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE size of ground London Broncos are seeking for rugby league's new summer Super League from next March would house a fair proportion of the total attendance of just under 48,000 at the Stones Bitter Championship matches last weekend.

A ground-share with one of the big London football clubs is certainly grandiose thinking. Wishful thinking, some might call it, with average crowds of just under 1,000 at the Broncos' Barnet Copthall Stadium this season.

Mention of the Broncos in a television straw poll in London streets this week brought several blank stares and one reply that they were an American football team. In converting attendances of 3,000 to an average of 44,000 in Brisbane, however, transforming apparently lost causes is something of a stock in trade for the Broncos organisation.

Arsenal, Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur or Queen's Park Rangers might not take kindly to a white charger galloping the pitch perimeter to celebrate a try, as happens at the ANZ stadium in Brisbane, but come from filling an empty ground in summer is the attraction the Broncos will be pushing in discussions with several clubs.

Brisbane has committed itself to the breakaway Australasian Super League and is to invest heavily in its London sister club. Barry Maranta, the London chairman, said a venue for between 30,000 and 50,000 spectators was needed.

"London Broncos' day-night football will introduce to London not only attacking, winning football but an exciting entertainment package," Maranta said. "The English Rugby League's skewed decision to play in summer means that families will be encouraged."

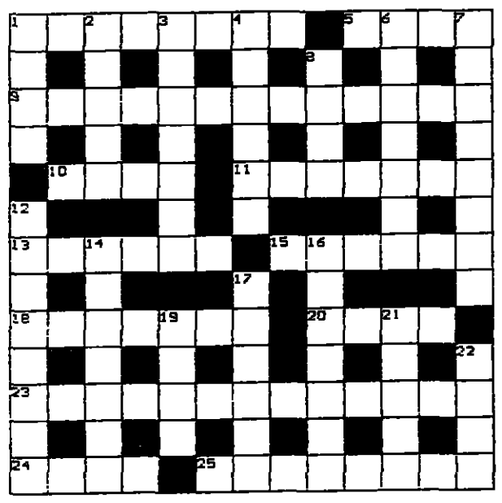
What might lure them are high-profile players the Broncos do not possess at present. These are likely to come from Australia and, if rugby union in England is vulnerable to the Super League, it is from a London club with spending capacity over five years of £5 million from the new competition, which is backed by News Corporation, the parent company of *The Times*.

In the furore over the merger of 15 clubs into six regional and city sides, talks between Salford and Oldham about their amalgamation as Manchester ended deadlocked after six hours. "We couldn't agree on the venue, the coaching staff, the board or even a name," Jim Quinn, the Oldham chairman, said.

Ken Arthurson, the Australian Rugby League chairman, claims 400 players are remaining loyal in not joining the Super League in Australia and New Zealand; enough, he claimed, to run a healthy alternative competition.

Reilly stays, page 41

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 445

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1 Touching tale (3,5)
5 Cut short; whipstock (4)
9 *Ostentatious charity-giver* (4,9)
10 Present (4)
11 Prohibition (order on shipping, commerce) (7)
13 Fine parchment (6)
15 Steal (6)
18 Almond essence, macaroon (7)
20 Point (of argument) (4)
23 Retaliatory principle (2,3,3,2,3)
24 Francisco —, Spanish portraitist (4)
25 Animal seeking another to eat (8)

DOWN
1 Be in a huff (4)
2 Identifying label (5)
3 *Motionless dramatic grouping* (7)
4 Jacob's eldest; Israelite tribe (6)
6 Game arbiter (7)
7 Jersey, sweater (8)
8 Wound with knife; attempt (4)
12 Protrude, jut (8)
14 Form of gambling, has prize draw (7)
16 Gaunt; adventure-story writer (7)
17 Generous act; a 2 (6)
19 Run away (4)
21 Snow/rain mixture (5)
22 *One's equal; look with difficulty* (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 444
ACROSS: 7 Sugar the pill 9 Honesty 10 Shrub 11 Nape 12 Epicycle 15 Intruder 17 Clog 19 Greek 21 Celsius 22 Absolute zero
DOWN: 1 Turnspit 2 Lapse 3 Stay up 4 Jessica 5 Tier 6 Flabbergast 8 Thinking cap 13 Colliery 14 Cuckold 16 Excite 18 Blaze 20 Easy

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Gough opens with honour

BY IVO TENNANT

GENUFLECTION towards Darren Gough has been one of the few constant factors about England's cricket in recent months. Always assuming he makes a full recovery from the foot injury that resulted in his early departure from Australia, the award he received yesterday as England's cricketer of the year is not likely to be his last in 1995.

The Yorkshire all-rounder, who received £7,500 at a lunch in London, said that the citation "made up for not completing our tour". The judges, who included Keith Fletcher, subsequently dismissed as England's coach, recognised Gough's "sheer impact and the buzz that he created among spectators".

In three Tests during the winter, Gough took 20 wickets and captured everyone's imagination. Mike Atherton, who won the award last year, was present yesterday, as were numerous other England captains of the recent past, among them Graham Gooch, who admits in his forthcoming autobiography, to be published by HarperCollins next month, that he erred in not always selecting David Gower. However, he states frankly that at the time he felt more at ease without Gower's presence.

Gough, alas, will miss the start of the season, which begins in its usual apologetic way at Fenner's and the Parks today. Rather than playing against Cambridge University, he will be at Headingley.

Gentle opener, page 40
Australia fight back, page 40

Play *The Times* Fantasy First XI game and win £10,000
Pages 38 and 39

IF THE GRAND OLD DUKE OF YORK'S ARMY HAD BEEN DOWNSIZED AT THE SAME RATE AS HEWLETT-PACKARD BUSINESS SERVERS SINCE 1985, HE WOULD HAVE MARCHED TO THE TOP OF THE HILL WITH

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